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WEEKLY

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WEEKEND
NSL
REPORTS

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AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY

**MISSION
IMPOSSIBLE**

MARATHON!



**GUNNING
versus
DAVIDSON**

Parramatta Melita's Geoff Gunning is in top form, collecting four goals in four matches. Here he tussles with Melbourne Croatia's Alan Davidson on Saturday night. Croatia won 2-1. Photo by STEPHEN GOSCH.

Craig Johnston's new appointment

A new post for former Liverpool star Craig Johnston will be announced today (Monday) at the Australian Soccer Federation offices in Rockdale, Sydney.

It is believed that ASF chairman John Constantine will reveal Johnston's appointment as an 'ambassador,' with a particular role in the area of Australian youth.

He is expected to be involved with the

promotion of the World Youth Cup finals, to take place in Australia in 1993.

Johnston recently conducted soccer clinics Australia-wide, in conjunction with the giant AMP Society.

Since returning to Australia from his years in England, he has expressed a deeply held desire to assist young Australian players advance in the game.

It seems that his wish has now been granted.

FIFA have again made it virtually impossible for Australia to qualify for the 1994 World Cup finals.

FIFA's executive in Zurich last Thursday decided on the most tortuous of roads for Australia in the next World Cup.

The winner of the Oceania group, minus Israel this time round, will have to play off against the third best team from Central and North America.

And if that wasn't tough enough, the winner of that trans-continental play-off will have to take on the best loser from South America for a berth to the USA in 1994!

This will be the toughest route, geographically, im-

posed on Australia in World Cup qualifying history.

It will be harder than in 1969 when FIFA made us travel to South Korea, Mozambique, and then Israel in a futile quest.

Our 1994 assignment will cover as many kilometres but the opposition will be far, far more difficult.

Say Australia wins the Oceania group, we would then probably have to meet Costa Rica, Canada or Trinidad and Tobago, as one must assume that Mexico will win the CONCACAF elimination group outright.

Mexico are back in favour after a four-year ban for using over-age players in international youth competitions.

FIFA have also

BY LOU GAUTIER

banned Costa Rica, but only from the upcoming Olympics in Barcelona, for a

similar transgression.

If the Socceroos get over the CON-

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 2



**NSL THRILLS
ROUND 10**

Preston's Ian Roodhouse is too late to stop Sydney Croatia's Paul Carter from getting his pass away. — Photo: JOE MONTEMURRO.

Brisbane United to sign Queensland state side

BY KEITH GILMOUR

BRISBANE expects to field virtually the Queensland state team when it convinces the Australian Soccer Federation board of commissioners that it is ready for a place in the National Soccer League.

This was the essence of the playing strength side of the plot, outlined to ASW by Queensland Soccer Federation chairman Wallace Dann last night.

"The Brisbane NSL club proposal received the full support of the Brisbane clubs at the recent Queensland Soccer Federation annual general meeting," he continued.

"Initially the club is being called 'Brisbane United' although this may or may not be firmed later.

"The QSF and the clubs will take up 50% of the shareholding, and we expect to have private and corporate investors involved for the other 50%.

"We see this as the

best way to operate, having regard to the problems that have occurred in other codes which have allowed clubs to have 100% private ownership."

There are plans afoot to make considerable improvements to the Perry Park ground, located in the close city suburb of Mayne.

Included would be considerable grandstand improvements.

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 2

CONSTANTINE'S FIFA POST

Australian Soccer Federation chairman John Constantine was appointed to the Youth Committee of FIFA at last week's meeting.

He told ASW: "I believe that this appointment will give Australia more regular access to the FIFA leadership."

"For my part, I will certainly be working in that direction."

With the World Youth Cup finals allocated to Australia in 1993, the move has particular significance.



John Constantine

CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 1

At present the covered stand is more of a huge shed-type structure.

Perry Park is owned by the Brisbane City Council, and the Queensland Federation has its extensive offices there, together with substantial club premises for which it holds a liquor licence.

Obviously the locating of a successful NSL club at the ground will have a big spin off for the QSF, and in turn the Brisbane United operation.

The provision of players by the Brisbane XXXX League clubs would be on a three year basis.

Naturally the NSL club will have to keep its eye peeled for any other talent that comes on the market and is needed to build a highly competitive squad.

The soccer people have watched Brisbane Broncos' success in rugby league and the Bulls in basketball, and are determined that the soccer operation will meet all criteria, both on and off the field.

The man who has been appointed to get the project off the ground is former Aston Villa and Scotland star, Allan Evans.

Evans turned out in over 500 matches for Villa.

His four international appearances took place in 1982, when he wore the dark blue against Holland, Northern Ireland, England and New Zealand.

SYDNEY Olympic fans should flock to Melita Stadium on Sunday, when prodigal sons Alistair Edwards and Abbas Saad make their return against the Eagles.

The much publicised return of Olympic's two most influential players from last season's championship-winning outfit will hopefully help the Mick Hickman-coached side turn the corner.

Allowing seven goals in their last two matches away, and without a victory away from St George Stadium this season, Olympic badly need both points to stay in touch with the leaders.

Last season Olympic did the double over Raul Blanco's charges, including a 5-1 drubbing at Melita, led by a Kevin Hagan hat-trick.

Melita have never beaten Olympic and Blanco must rectify the problems following two successive defeats.

With only two points to date, the Eagles' home form has been abysmal, and although workhorse Geoff Gunning has been outstanding in recent weeks, Olympic should take the points.

Melbourne Croatia, plagued with injuries and suspensions, host the difficult Adelaide City this weekend.

In doubt for this Sunday are Ivan Duzel, Alan Davidson, and Branko Milosevic (injured) and defender George Hannah (suspended), all key players for the Melbourne side.

Despite the problems on the pitch and at management level, Croatia will prove a tough nut for Adelaide to crack.

Unbeaten in their last five league matches and still unbeaten at home this season, Melbourne Croatia look to have the goods this campaign.

For the visitors, the loss of Ernie Tapai for the season is a cruel blow as the Zoran Matic side began to rebuild their season after an appalling start.

City's only victory at Melbourne Croatia was three years ago, yet the Zebras have not lost in their last four matches away, and hold one of the better away records in the league.

With so many of Melbourne's stars in doubt, a draw looks likely.

Struggling St George will have their hands full when they tackle Sydney Croatia at St George Stadium this weekend.

With only one goal in their last three matches at home, the Saints may well be rueing the recent transfer of the league's top scorer Tony Krslovic, who returns to face his old club for the first time.

As much as Krslovic would dearly love to crack home a couple of goals, former teammate, John Filan will be equally determined to continue his dominating form between the sticks.

Just how long St George can rely on Filan preventing cricket scores is a mystery as the Saints have failed to win in their last nine matches.

Sydney Croatia, following a confident start to the season have slipped up recently and in fact are yet to win away from their home patch.

With Saints coach Frank Arok relying so



ALISTAIR EDWARDS

heavily on youth these days, Croatia should pick up their first away win, with Krslovic likely to grab a couple.

Old rivals Heidelberg and South Melbourne meet in the Greek derby at Olympic Village on Sunday.

Heidelberg, unbeaten in their last four home matches but trounced yesterday, should welcome hard-working striker Andy Humble back following suspension.

Away from Middle Park, Souths have been a little lacklustre lately with only one win in their last four.

With striker Michael Michalakopoulos banging away the goals with monotonous regularity, Puskas' boys should have the wood over the Bergers come Sunday.

matches.

In other matches, Sunshine could snatch a point at Wollongong City, following the Wolves' successive 4-1

defeats, while Marconi with the only 100% home record in the league should rack up a big win over improving Wollongong Macedonia.

CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 1

As only three teams from South America qualify automatically for the finals in the US — say Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay — that leaves countries of the calibre of Chile, Colombia and Paraguay on the path of the Soceroos.

It very much sounds like mission impossible.

Also keep in mind that Eddie Thomson will have practically no chance of fielding the European-based Aussies in the latter qualifying stages.

South American countries play their qualifiers from August through October, so should we win our way CACAF hurdle, they will then come up against formidable

able South American opposition.

through, we are looking at a November date for the play-off — right smack in the middle of the European club season.

No matter how harsh FIFA's ruling, the cards have now been dealt.

There's no point crying over spilled milk.

We have to start planning and preparing NOW for the assault on the Americas, New Zealand willing in the Oceania qualifiers, of course.

Next year's opponents will provide little practical opposition.

We have to start the ball rolling and play Latin American teams, and play them home and away often.

The ball is now in the ASF's court.

AUSTRALIAN

SOCCER

WEEKLY

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—Deadline for contributions, articles and advertising is Thursday morning of the WEEK PRIOR to issue date.



**QUEENSLAND
SOCCER
FEDERATION**

The Queensland Soccer Federation wishes to appoint a Director of Coaching for the Brisbane and West Moreton area.

Applicants must possess at least ASF level III accreditation.

The successful applicant will join an existing group of Regional coaches in Queensland, working under the control of the State Director of Coaching.

All applications would be considered for any other vacancies that may occur throughout the state.

Duties include:

Maintenance and improvement of coaching standards in the area.
Identification and development of talented youth players.
Development of the code at primary, secondary and tertiary institutions.

Written applications are to be directed to:

The Secretary,
Queensland Soccer Federation
Perry Park
Abbotsford Rd
MAYNE QLD 4006

Applications close January 11th, 1991.

MELITA v SYDNEY OLYMPIC



**SUNDAY
6PM**

**MELITA
STADIUM**

**YOUTH LEAGUE
4PM**



MARSHALL SOPER



GREG BROWN



ANDREW BERNAL



ROBBIE IRONSIDE



PLAYER AWARDS

Syd Olympic v Apia L'hardt

- 3 Spyridakos (SO)
- 2 Ironside (SO)
- 1 Blagojevic (AL)

Syd Croatia v W'gong City

- 3 Krslovic (SC)
- 2 Lamond (SC)
- 1 Carter (SC)

Sunshine v Preston

- 3 Kindtner (SCG)
- 2 C. Foster (SCG)
- 1 Waddell (SCG)

W'gong Mac v Heidelberg

- 3 Bourke (WM)
- 2 D. Wilson (WM)
- 1 Stubbins (H)

SM Hellas v St George

- 3 Michalakopoulos (SMH)
- 2 Petersen (SMH)
- 1 Postecoglou (SMH)

Melita Eagles v Melb Croatia

- 3 O'Donnell (ME)
- 2 Milosevic (MC)
- 1 Gunning (ME)

Ad City v Marconi

- 3 P. Okon (M)
- 2 Ivanovic (AC)
- 1 Tobin (AC)

PLAYER POINTS

- 13: J. Filan (StG)
- 12: Stubbins (H)
- 11: Petkovic (Syd Cr), Bundalo (Apia)
- 10: Biskic (MC), Krslovic (SC)
- 9: Ironside (SO), Kindtner (Sun)
- 8: Stewart (Ap), C. Foster (Sun), Ivanovic (AC), Lowe (Mar)

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IN MELBOURNE RING GREG BLAKE
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Krslovic again amongst the goals

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

WITH a devastating display young Sydney Croatia striker Tony Krslovic last night served notice that he is well on the way to cementing a position in the Socceroo squad, as his hat-trick led Croatia to a storming 4-1 defeat of Wollongong City at Edensor Park.

To complete a night of joy for the Croatia camp, striking partner Manis Lamond gave a sparkling performance, which indicated that his newly formed partnership with Krslovic is going to develop into one of the deadliest in the league.

An unusually slack Wollongong defence handed Croatia an early Christmas present with an astonishing gift goal after just two minutes.

Lamond slung over a corner kick from the right for Krslovic to climb high completely unchallenged right on the goal line and nod home the simplest of headers.

Not to be outdone, Croatia returned the favour to the Wolves by conceding a soft equaliser with 10 minutes gone.

Paul Farmer got possession on the left and his harmless looking cross was completely misjudged for Pat Brodnik to sneak in and glance it past keeper Tony Franken.

After the hectic opening spell the match settled down with Croatia always holding a midfield edge, and they regained the lead in the 23rd minute following a free kick close to the by-line.

Wollongong keeper George Bouhoutsos punched out Ivan Petkovic's floated ball, but it fell perfectly for Lamond to crash his left foot volley past a packed defence from the edge of the area.

From one of the Wolves' few good attacking moves striker Frank Bates should have levelled the score in the 64th minute.

However, he shot well over the bar from 10 metres, and the Wolves were beginning to show signs that their no-nonsense style of play was possibly capable of salvaging something from the game.

But just as Wollongong started to raise hopes of a comeback,



TONY KRSLOVIC

Krslovic and Lamond combined to produce two sizzling goals in six minutes and effectively kill off the contest.

Petkovic supplied the ammunition for the first with a sweeping pass to Lamond in the 68th minute and he set off on a good run inside the area but instead of having a shot himself the Croatia speedster cut the ball back for Krslovic to hammer an unstoppable drive into the roof of the net.

Six minutes later, it was Gibson who found Lamond wide on the right and in a similar move to the previous goal he again slipped a short pass to Krslovic who gave Bouhoutsos no possible chance for his hat-trick.

Brodnik and Bates had a couple of chances to pick up a consolation goal late in the game but wasted their opportunities as the Wolves went down to their second successive 4-1 defeat.

But the night belonged to Krslovic and Lamond.

On this performance, Croatia fans can look forward to plenty of goals this summer and will most certainly put up a strong challenge for a final five position.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Franken 6, Carter 7, Popovic 6, Zelic 6, Kupresak 6, Runje 6 (Stanton 74), I Petkovic 6, Gibson 6 (Koch 84), Ricoy 6, Lamond 8, Krslovic 8.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Bouhoutsos 6, Green 6, Hollifield 6, Morlando 5, Yankos 6, McEvoy 5 (D Petkovic 56), Skeen 6, Cahut 5 (Hristovski 74), Bate 5, Brodnik 6, Farmer 5.

SCORERS: Krslovic 2m, 68m, 74m, Lamond 23m (SC); Brodnik 10m (WC).

YELLOW CARDS: Carter 37m, Gibson 57m, Zelic 62m (SC); Skeen 46m, D Petkovic 77m (WC).

REFEREE: R. Lorenc 6.

CROWD: 3,652.

Marconi slumps in Adelaide

BY ALAN CLARK



Night action, Adelaide City's Aurelio Vidmar takes his shot, whilst John Filan of St George counters with a dive to his right. Photo: JANUSZ KAMMA.

players off.

Play resumed after five minutes and Marconi had the edge in midfield, but could not find a way past the brilliant City defence of Paul Shillabeer, Tobin and Milan Ivanovich.

The lights went off again four minutes before

halftime, and play eventually restarted after another 10-minute delay.

ADELAIDE CITY: Zabica 7, Shillabeer 7, T. Vidmar 6, Ivanovich 8, Tobin 8, Melita 6, Veart 6, (Barbaro 55m), Csoboth 6, (Christopoulos 88m), Vidmar 7, Maxwell 6.

MARCONI: Catlin 7, Wheatley 6, de Marigny 6, Calderan 6, Okon 8, Gray 6, McCulloch 7, Jones 7, (Corica 83m), Seal 6, Markovski 6 (Nastevski 73m), Lowe 6.

SCORER: A. Vidmar 70 for Adelaide City.

YELLOW CARDS: Tobin 78m for Adcity.

REFEREE: T. McRoe 7.
CROWD: 6,500 (approx).

MARCONI v WOLL. MAC



MARCONI STADIUM

SUNDAY 7PM



YOUTH LEAGUE 5PM



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Results of early weekend league action, plus a full list of weekend league fixtures. From 3am Sunday, live, the BBC match of the day from England.

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Kindtner the maestro!

BY GREG BLAKE

SUNSHINE George Cross produced its most emphatic performance of the season as it downed Top Five aspirant Preston 3-0 at Skinner Reserve yesterday.

A commanding performance by young midfield maestro Lorenz Kindtner and a disciplined defensive display earned the home side a much needed victory.

Kindtner was the tormentor of a sub-standard Preston side which was desperately missing injured Socceros Oscar Crino and Warren Spink.

Whilst Kindtner was making two goals and scoring a spectacular third, Preston lacked cohesion and looked an aimless outfit without a top notch spearhead.

Sunshine opened the goalscoring inside six minutes when the irrepressible Kindtner ran full tilt down the left and checked his run brilliantly before squaring the ball for David Clarkson who nonchalantly sidefooted the ball home from close



LORENZ KINDTNER — brilliant.

range.

Preston bounced back and looked the better side for the final 20 minutes of the opening half when big Robbie Markovac, best on ground for his club last week, started to exert some influence on the game.

But missed chances to Shaun Parton and Lou Bekiaris and a magnificent save by Frank Talia from Markovac put paid to thoughts of a Preston equaliser before the in-

terval.

After the break it was the Kindtner show, although he was well supported by his aggressive, broad-shouldered midfield partner Craig Oster.

Kindtner himself scored the goal of the match with a mazy run from the middle of the field which took him past George Jolevski and Parton and he polished it off by rounding goalkeeper Phil Traianedes and slamming the ball home.

Forever the architect, Kindtner got Derek Hunter away in the 75th minute for one near thing before he made the third goal in the 81st minute.

This time it was a perfect defence-splitting pass by the irrepressible Kindtner which put Damian Mori in the clear.

Mori, a defender turned striker to replace suspended Gary Hasler, made no mistake as he tucked the ball under the hapless Traianedes.

Preston nearly pulled a consolation goal back when George Petrov hit the crossbar with two minutes left on the clock.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS: Talia 7, DeAmicis 7, Roodhouse 6 (Fabrizio 73), Waddell 7, Ket-sakidis 6, C Foster 8, Kindtner 8, Hunter 5, Mori 6, Clarkson 7, Cranney 6.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Traianedes 6, Roodhouse 5, Jolevski 6, Jackson 6, Parton 6, Petrov 6, Zinni 7, Trajanovski 5, Tasevski (J Markovac 37, 3), Bekiaris 4 (Spasevski 69), R Markovac 5.

SCORERS: Clarkson 6m, Kindtner 48m, Mori 81m (SGC).

REFEREE: D Voutsinis 7.

CROWD: 4,000.

Ironside cancels McQuarrie

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ROBBIE Ironside, Sydney Olympic's tenacious Kiwi midfielder, scored a spectacular diving header three minutes before fulltime to secure his team a well deserved 1-1 draw with Apia Leichhardt last night at the St George Stadium.

Despite Olympic being continually on the attack, it was the same old story as goals failed to materialise.

Ironside's life saving goal came when Olympic's pacy left midfielder Steve Refenes raided down the touchline before blasting a hot drive from 15 metres out.

Apia goalkeeper Brett Hughes could only manage to knock the shot up onto his crossbar, and it ricocheted back into the path of a diving Ironside who headed straight into the net.

A much relieved Ironside stated after the match: "It is getting monotonous us playing well and missing scoring chances. I missed four myself before I finally scored that one."

"We attacked too much down the flanks. The ball is not getting up early enough for our strikers to be able to capitalise."

Ironically, Apia hit the lead three minutes after halftime when talented midfielder Alex Bundalo crossed into the box from the left.

Fellow midfielder John McQuarrie turned in a flash and smashed the low drive into the left corner of the net from the edge of the box.

McQuarrie again was involved in the 64th minute when he stole possession from Refenes and sprayed a wide ball

to the right to Bundalo.

Bundalo clipped a perfect cross into the box but striker Tony Lemizina's snap shot from eight metres shaved Clint Gosling's left post.

The first half ended scoreless despite Sydney Olympic holding supremacy.

Olympic's waves of attacks constantly troubled Apia as shots rained in on goalkeeper Brett Hughes from Steve Refenes, Tony Spyridakos, Pablo Cardoza and Jason Bennett.

Ironically, Apia came closer to scoring as early as the 10th minute as lanky midfielder Gerry Gomez broke clear with only Clint Gosling to beat.

But Gosling just managed to fingertip Gomez' placement round the post for a

corner.

Olympic powered their way through in the 18th and 39th minutes with attacks down the left through Refenes first, then Robbie Hooker, but on both occasions their crosses were wasted.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Gosling 6, Barrett 6, Plataniotis 6 (Bernal 66m), Spyridakos 7, Hooker 6, Phillips 6, Sorras 6, Ironside 7, Refenes 6, Cardoza 6 (Hagan 57m), Bennett 6.

APIA LEICHHARDT: Hughes 6, M Brown 6, Stewart 6, Blagojevic 7, Jennings 6, Bundalo 6, Clinch 6 (Maloney 75), McQuarrie 7, Gomez 6, McFadden 6, Lemizina 6 (R Brown 68).

SCORERS: McQuarrie 48m (AL), Ironside 48m (SO).

YELLOW CARDS: M Brown 68m J McQuarrie 88m (AL).

REFEREE: P Spiers 7. **CROWD:** 4,221.



Ivan Duzel, of Melbourne Croatia, who only lasted four minutes last Saturday, in action against Melita Eagles' Hugo Gimenez. Croatia won 2-1 — STEPHEN GOSCH photo.

QUIT NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE



WEEKEND
FIXTURES

ROUND 12



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

PRESTON MAKEDONIA v APIA LEICHHARDT
Connor Reserve 6pm

WOLLONGONG CITY v SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS
Brandon Park 6pm

ST GEORGE BSC v SYDNEY CROATIA
St George Stadium 7pm

HEIDELBERG UNITED v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS
Olympic Village 6pm

MARCONI v WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA
Marconi Stadium 7pm

MELBOURNE CROATIA v ADELAIDE CITY
Somers Street 6pm

MELITA EAGLES v SYDNEY OLYMPIC
Melita Stadium 6pm



Ansett.



HAVE YOUR SAY . . .

OUR man at various NSL matches in NSW, Stephen Oldridge, is there specially to collect a cross section of ideas from some important people — the members of the soccer public.

He is identifiable by his media badge, and will be glad to obtain your views on the progress of the game.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY will then print a selection of the pointers that he has obtained.

What are your ideas to advance the great game of soccer football? Tell them to Stephen Oldridge, as he moves to various grounds.



ANOTHER HIGHLY READABLE ASW FEATURE

WHAT a week, what a crowd! This week I attended two games and was inundated with your views.

Charlie: What is the problem with referees? They show no consistency in decisions. Sometimes I think they've been told to look after the bigger clubs.

Katie: No wonder crowds are poor. No one knows that the games are on. Why doesn't the NSL advertise on TV? Also the price of the NSL Cup games is a bit expensive.

siive.

[This comment was repeated many times over by other patrons.]

Sasha, Michael and Zac: At the end of a game we like to run on the field and show our players how we appreciate them.

As supporters we do our best all year, but never get to meet the players.

Because we run on the field it doesn't mean we want to cause trouble.

We are just very enthusiastic fans.



Melita goalkeeper Alex McPherson, not in inspired form in the 2-1 loss to Melbourne Croatia yesterday, concedes the Victorians' first goal — **STEPHEN GOSCH** pic.

Michalakopoulos destroys Saints

BY PETROS KOSMOPOULOS

BRILLIANT young South Melbourne Hellas forward Michael Michalakopoulos scored two goals in his side's 2-1 victory over Saint George yesterday evening at Middle Park Stadium.

Michalakopoulos in the last two weeks has scored five goals for his team, four in the championship and one in the Cup.

South Melbourne Hellas did not take long to open the scoreline. Four minutes into the game Mike Petersen, with an excellent pass, found young Michalakopoulos who lobbed Saints' goalkeeper John Filan, sending the ball to the back of the net.

Despite conceding an early goal, the visitors fought back to create some good chances in the first half.

A Mathew Bingley cross in the 20th minute found a well placed Zoran Ilic, whose header went over the crossbar.

South had a great chance to increase its lead five minutes before half time when Soccer-oo Paul Wade gave a through ball to Danny Wright who from the edge of the box let go with a powerful right foot shot but it was saved superbly by Saints' goalkeeper Filan.

The home team in-



MIKE PETERSEN

creased the pressure in the last five minutes of the half but Filan saved a Paul Trimboli header in the 43rd minute and a Mike Petersen stinger on the stroke of half time.

The visitors fought back in the second half and were unlucky not to equalise when in the 48th minute a left foot shot by Dominic Longo was saved brilliantly for a corner by Bruce MacLaren.

St George's efforts were rewarded eventually in the 57th minute. From a goalmouth scramble Ilic with a well struck shot sent the ball to the back of the net.

South's coach Ferenc Puskas made a change in the 58th minute,

bringing on Peter Tsolakakis for youngster Con Boutsianis.

South got back into the lead in the 77th minute. Captain Angelo Postecoglou with a good cross found man of the match Michael Michalakopoulos who, in a good position, sent the ball to the back of the net for his second goal and the winner for his team.

The home side could have increased its lead a minute later when a Trimboli shot hit the post.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: MacLaren 7, Healy 5, Postecoglou 7, Durakovic 6, Blair 6, Wade 6, Michalakopoulos 8, Petersen 7, Trimboli 5, Wright 5, Boutsianis 4 (Tsolakis 58).

ST GEORGE: Filan 7, Milicevic 6, Spanoudakis 5, Longo 7, Koczka 6, O'Shea 6, Ilic 7, Katalic 6 (Kotsias 70), Bingley 6, Colagiuri 6, El-Ali 6 (Harper 56).

SCORERS: Michalakopoulos 4m, 77m (SM); Ilic 57m (SG).

YELLOW CARDS: Longo 51m, Ilic 75m (SG).

REFEREE: C. Bambridge 7.

CROWD: 3,000 (approx).

Alan Davidson, Australia's possible new World Cup captain, was stretchered off the field just six minutes before full-time and rushed to Auburn Hospital suffering concussion.

Croatia goalkeeper David Miller, reflecting on the incident which saw Davidson crumple to the ground near his own goal post, said: "A Melita cross was coming in from the flank and Davo and I both went up for it. I swung a punch at the ball but it caught Alan on the back of the head and knocked him out."

Melita, who have fast become the entertainers of the NSL, looked like they had fought back from being down a goal to earn themselves a valuable 1-1 draw.

But with 10 seconds left on the clock, referee John McConnell awarded Melbourne a free kick for a foul by substitute Lenny Vial on striker Ivan Kelic just five metres outside the box and Andy Marth, Melbourne Croatia's powerful central defender, stepped up and powered his drive straight

W'GONG MACEDONIA SPORTS COMPLEX

WOLLONGONG Macedonia is moving to establish their own sports centre at Berkeley, south of Wollongong.

The club already has the land, and has targetted \$1 million for the project, with \$100,000 believed to be already in hand.

Stage 1 includes building a grandstand for 2,000 people, a licensed club and car parking.

Foundation members are being sought at \$1,000 each, with those subscribing to receive special privileges.

George Stojanovski and Vasco Talevski have been well involved in marketing the club proposals.

'Davo' injury mars narrow Croatia win

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

MELBOURNE Croatia pulled off a heroic last-minute 2-1 victory over a rampaging Melita Eagles last Saturday night in an action-packed clash that had the 2,652 fans on the edge of their seats at Melita Stadium.



Melita's Gus Cerro (left) is left in the wake of Melbourne Croatia striker Ivan Kelic — **STEPHEN GOSCH** photo.

through Melita's 'wall'.

The ball nailed the target just inside the first post in the eighth minute of injury-time.

Melita coach Raul Blanco was understandably disappointed after the match.

"It's no use being the entertaining team of the NSL if we don't pick up wins," he said.

"Their winning goal came from a serious basic mistake as our 'wall' completely opened up to allow the shot to flash through for the goal."

Conversely, Melbourne Croatia's stand-in coach, George Hannah proudly stated: "We worked hard and my boys were heroes because we lost three players during the match with serious injuries, and in the second half whilst under severe pressure we still were able to retain our shape. You can say we won the hard way."

The three injured players Hannah was referring to were midfielders Ivan Duzel

(off in the 4th minute with a torn hamstring), Branko Milosevic (off in the 75th minute with an injured shin) and, of course, Davidson.

Croatia hit the lead in the 17th minute when Kelic powered a strong header into the net from an excellent cross from fourth minute substitute Joe Caleta.

Melita bombarded Melbourne Croatia's goal with lethal shots from Greg Brown, Marshall Soper and Jarek Nowicki, all failing to score.

When all seemed lost, a Melita attack in the 69th minute brought dividends.

Nowicki shook off two defenders on the right, crossed into the box where Brown nodded down for tenacious left-midfielder Geoff Gunning to charge in and crack a magnificent first timed drive from 10 metres that stretched the net and balanced the scoreboard at 1-1.

This was Gunning's fourth consecutive goal in four successive matches for Melita.

Melita was most unfortunate not to get at least a draw as Soper hit the first post with an outswinging cross from the left flank three minutes before halftime.

Then midfielder, Hugo Gimenez was denied a blatant penalty when hit from behind in the box by

substitute Mark Silic in the 79th minute.

MELITA EAGLES: McPherson 5, Williams 5 (Mason 46m 5), Callanan 7, O'Donnell 7, Gonzalez 6, Nowicki 6, Cerro 6, Gimenez 6, Gunning 7: Soper 6 (Vial 78m), Brown 6.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Miller 7, Talajic 7, Marth 6, Selemidis 6, Davidson 6, Donnelly 6, Biskic 6, Milosevic 7 (Silic 75m), Duzel (Caleta 4m 6), Awaritefe 6, Kelic 6.

SCORERS: Gunning 69m for Melita; Kelic 17m, Marth 98m for Melbourne Croatia.

YELLOW CARDS: Gimenez 24m, Vial 89m, for Melita; Kelic 22m, Donnelly 48m for Melbourne Croatia.

REFEREE: J. McConnell 6.

CROWD: 2,652.

SAM OFF TO MALTA

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

MELITA Eagles president Sam Vella is off next Sunday to the country of his birth, Malta, for a three-week holiday break.

Sam, who has done more for Melita Eagles than anyone else in the history of the club, has never revisited Malta in 42 years.

But instead of being excited about his trip, big Sam is worried as his team plays Sydney Olympic at the St George Stadium on Sunday and his Singapore Airline flight takes off four hours before kick-off.

By the time the match is finished, Sammy will still be in the air just two hours out of Singapore.

Special efforts are being made to get the match result knocked up into the plane and taken down the aisle to where Sammy will be seated.

"Any points for Melita and I will be grateful," Sam told ASW last night.

SAINTS HOT-LINE

Soccer & Stadium Information

0055 21160

Updated every day and every 15 minutes during home games.

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QUIT NATIONAL LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Melbourne	11	6	4	1	18	10	16
Melb. Croatia	11	6	3	2	26	19	15
Marconi	11	7	0	4	21	14	14
Preston	11	5	3	3	16	12	13
Sydney Croatia	11	4	5	2	13	10	13

Adelaide City	11	4	5	2	12	10	13
Sydney Croatia	11	2	7	2	12	14	11
Wollongong City	11	5	1	5	14	17	11
Apia Leichhardt	11	4	2	5	14	13	10
Parra Melita	11	3	3	5	16	17	9
Sunshine GC	11	3	2	6	20	26	8
Heidelberg Utd.	11	2	4	5	10	16	8

Wollongong Macedonia	11	1	5	5	7	14	7
St George	11	1	4	6	11	18	6

Results

PARRA MELITA 1 (Gunning) MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Kelic, Marth) at Melita Stadium. Crowd: 2652.
SOUTH MELBOURNE 2 (Michalakopoulos 2) ST GEORGE 1 (Ilic) at Middle Park. Crowd: 3000.
SYDNEY CROATIA 4 (Krslovic 3, Lamond) WOLLONGONG CITY 1 (Brodnik) at Croatian Sports Centre. Crowd: 3652.
SUNSHINE GC 3 (Clarkson, Kindtner, Mori) PRESTON 0 at Skinner Reserve. Crowd: 4000.
WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA 3 (D. Wilson, Jurin, Thornthwaite) HEIDELBERG 0 at Brandon Park. Crowd: 2178.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Ironsides) APIA LEICHHARDT 1 (McQuarrie) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 4221.
ADELAIDE CITY 1 (A. Vidmar) MARCONI 0 at Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 6500.

CROWDS

ROUND 11: 26,203
AVERAGE PER GAME: 3,743
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 241,965
AVERAGE PER ROUND: 21,996

TOP SCORERS

TONY KRSLOVIC (Sydney Croatia)	10
DAVID SEAL (Marconi)	8
WARREN SPINK (Preston)	6
GREG BROWN (Parra Melita)	6
IVAN KELIC (Melbourne Croatia)	6

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6pm, or contact Alex Odisho on
610 5669 (after hours).

W'gong Macedonia finally win game

BY LEN CHAFER

WOLLONGONG Macedonia notched up their first win in the NSL with a comfortable 3-0 victory over Heidelberg at Brandon Park yesterday.

The first goal came in the 17th minute when Darren Wilson scored with a first-time volley into the roof of the net.

Fletcher crossed a great ball after being put away on the left wing by Markovski.

Wilson made no mistake and put Macedonia in front 1-0.

Heidelberg nearly replied in the 34th minute when George Slifkas hit a hard dipping shot from 28 metres and the ball just flashed past the near post.

Most of the first half was dominated by Wollongong Macedonia and Heidelberg was struggling to find form.

In the second half both teams attacked but lack of finishing power put neither goalkeeper in danger.

In the 65th minute Macedonia had a good chance to score but failed to put the ball away after a goal-mouth scramble.

Wollongong Macedonia went further ahead in the 71st minute when Zeljko Jurin scored from six metres from a cross by Sasha Becvinovski.

Macedonia scored again in the 83rd minute when Darren Wilson crossed from the right and Gary Brattan fouled Sandy as he went for the ball in the penalty area.

The referee had no hesitation in pointing to the spot and Thornthwaite scored to make the score 3-0 in Macedonia's favour.

Heidelberg did not have the answer to Macedonia's constant pressure and their midfield lacked composure.

This win lifts Macedonia from the foot of the NSL ladder and the club is hoping for more of this kind of result in weeks to come.

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA: P. Wilson 6, Cavanah 6, Dunn 7, D. Wilson 7, Bourke 8, Bimov 7, Sandy 6, Markovski 6 (Becvinovski 60).



DARREN WILSON

Jurin 6, Fletcher 6, Thornthwaite 7.

HEIDELBERG: Oliver 5, Kanesoulis (Iliopoulos 12m, 5), Bordignon 5, Ousalas 5, Cannell 6, Brattan 6, Stubbins 7, Slifkas 7, Stevenson 5, Goutzioulis 7, Rizo-poulos 5 (Carter 54m, 5).

SCORERS: D. Wilson 17m, Jurin 71m, Thornthwaite pen 83m (WM).

YELLOW CARDS: Dunn 9m, D. Wilson 64m (WM); Cannell 88m (H). REFEREE: P. Holme 6. CROWD: 2,178.

Hasten slowly for the NSL changes

BY KEITH GILMOUR

THE Australian Soccer Federation is keen to hose down the spate of uninformed speculation taking place about the composition of the National Soccer League for the 1991/92 summer season.

All sorts of ideas are being bandied about at present, when the main interest could better be focussed on the outcome of the 1990/91 competition, which has barely reached the halfway mark.

Chairman John Constantine said: "Saying this club or that one will be in is well ahead of its time."

"The present position is that we are working hard to set up the criteria for 1991/92 admission."

"We have been checking how soon a meeting of the commissioners can be held to decide the criteria, and the earliest it seems possible could be January 10."

"An announcement (on the outcome) will

be made as soon as possible.

"Many clubs have already been working along the lines set out in the Bradley Report, but we are yet to set the weighings."

"No doubt there will be applications from clubs and groups of clubs."

"However, we have not asked for applications from new clubs."

"There are at this stage merely letters expressing interest from cities such as Newcastle, Canberra and Brisbane, and some discussions have been held with Perth."

"Already we have said that we will not compromise standards, just for the sake of geographical spread."

"Spread can come slowly if necessary. Certainly nothing will be achieved if we move too quickly."

It will become clear in time if the clubs and the code have done their homework.

The needs of the game are there for all to see, given the history of National League development down the years since its formation in 1977.

Preston's persistence ousts Marconi from the NSL Cup

BY KEITH GILMOUR

PRESTON Macedonia turned a sub-standard first half performance into a deserved 1-0 win over fellow Cup chasers Marconi Fairfield in the last Round 2 tie at Marconi Stadium on Wednesday night.

Marconi opened up as if they were really after the Cup, which they won back in 1980, in order to ensure they had some silverware to show for the season.

But Preston, who have never won the trophy, snared a perhaps lucky 42nd minute goal when a drive from Robert Markovac was helped in by the boot of Marconi defender, Steve Calderan.

Young goalkeeper



WARREN SPINK — missing from Preston line-up.

Mark Schwarzer, who had been selected ahead of regular Bob Catlin, could not stop the ball going in between himself and his left post.

Warren Spink was missing from the Preston line-up, whilst Tommy McCulloch and Robert Wheatley had to stand down for Marconi.

Preston's win takes them in against Apia Leichhardt on February 6, with South Melbourne playing Parramatta Melita on the same night.

Marconi began the game stylishly, as they set about creating enough opportunities to have had the game in their pocket before halftime.

Ian Gray, David Lowe and Zlatko Nastevski all went close, with the latter denied a virtual certainty by the foresight of Preston keeper, Phil Traianedes.

Lowe had been running riot, but he was

little seen in the second half, as Preston put a near impenetrable ring around the Marconi strikers.

In the 55th minute Preston can thank Steve Jackson for getting them out of deep trouble.

Calderan was involved and David Seal virtually had the ball into the opposing goal, but Jackson came from the clouds to clear off the line.

The impression is there that Nastevski may still be favouring his knee, and the potential of midfielder/striker John Markovski is not yet being fully realised.

Maybe a little time and some underlying ambition will see Markovski fully motivated.

For Preston's part, there is no doubt that John Gardiner has established a physically strong team, with a defence that gives nothing away and which puts real backbone into the team.

BHP Wolves announce big sponsorship

WOLLONGONG BHP Wolves will have the most valuable sponsorship in the National Soccer League.

The announcement is to be made at the Fraternity Club, Fairy Meadow, on Tuesday. It seems they will receive \$100,000 per annum together with public relations benefits in an excellent package.

BHP Steel's Slab and Plate Products Division, based on the huge Port Kembla Steelworks, is currently sponsoring the club for its fifth year, and a valuable further extension is expected.

Group general manager Graham Parker will be on hand to make the announcement.

Wollongong City was set up as a club to cater for the soccer needs of the entire community, and fought hard to gain the excellent Brandon Park as the major soccer arena of the Illawarra district.

— KEITH GILMOUR

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SOCCER POOLS



THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 10/12/90 — WEEK 280

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED										NO. OF WEEKS SINCE EACH NUMBER OCCURRED									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
31	35	42	21	35	51	37	53	12	13	0	9	11	0	13	8	1	15	0	0
48	60	57	60	50	56	56	51	17	18	4	2	1	20	21	22	7	23	24	0
57	49	40	57	53	56	56	53	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
52	58	56	65	67	78	59	57	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
59	69	63	74	57	59			45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56

Results History is from Week 38, the start of Six from 38 Pools

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MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 281

SAT. 15th DECEMBER, 1990

THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST

WEEK 282

SAT. 22nd DECEMBER, 1990

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	CHELSEA	COVENTRY	1
	LIVERPOOL	SOUTHAMPTON	2
	MAN. CITY	CRYSTAL P.	3
	NORWICH	EVERTON	4
	TOTTENHAM	LUTON	5
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	WIMBLEDON	MAN. UNITED	6
	BARNLEY	WEST HAM	7
	BRISTOL R.	NEWCASTLE	8
	CHARLTON	HULL	9
	MIDDLESBRO	BLACKBURN	10
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	NOTTS. C.	BRISTOL C.	11
	OXFORD UTD.	SHEFF. WED.	12
	PORT VALE	BRIGHTON	13
	SWINDON	WEST BROM.	14
	BOLTON	CAMBRIDGE U.	15
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	BRADFORD C.	SHREWSBURY	16
	CHESTER	SOUTHEND	17
	EXETER	ROTHERHAM	18
	GRIMSBY	BOURNEMOUTH	19
	HUDDERSFIELD	BURY	20
ENGLISH DIVISION 5	LEYTON O.	CREWE	21
	MANSFIELD	FULHAM	22
	PRESTON	STOKE	23
	SWANSEA	READING	24
	BURNLEY	HARTLEPOOL	25
ENGLISH DIVISION 6	DARLINGTON	CHESTERFIELD	26
	HEREFORD	SCUNTHORPE	27
	LINCOLN	GILLINGHAM	28
	MAIDSTONE	TORQUAY	29
	CHELSEA	COLCHESTER	30
ENGLISH DIVISION 7	GATESHEAD	KETTERING	31
	MERTHYR T.	WYCOMBE	32
	SLOUGH	FISHER ATH.	33
	YEOVIL	ALTRINCHAM	34
	ATHERSTONE	DORCHESTER	35
ENGLISH DIVISION 8	BROMSGROVE	BASHLEY	36
	CAMBRIDGE C.	WATERLOO	37
	DOVER	RUSSHDEN	38
	FARNBORO	MOOR GREEN	39
	DUNFERMLINE	DUNDEE U.	40
ENGLISH DIVISION 9	HEARTS	MOTHERWELL	41
	RANGERS	ABERDEEN	42
	ST. JOHNSTONE	CELTIC	43
	ST. MIRREN	HIBERNIAN	44
	CLYDEBANK	AYR	45
ENGLISH DIVISION 10	HAMILTON	MEADOWBANK	46
	KILMARNOCK	FORFAR	47
	MORTON	CLYDE	48
	PARTICK	RAITH	49
	ALBION R.	Q. OF SOUTH	50
ENGLISH DIVISION 11	ALLOA	EAST FIFE	51
	ARBROATH	QUEENS P.	52
	DUMFRIES	MONTROSE	53
	GLASGOW	PAISLEY	54
	PERTH	ROBROATH	55

RESERVE MATCHES

ENGLISH DIVISION 12	FARNBORO	MOOR GREEN	39
	DUNFERMLINE	DUNDEE U.	40
	HEARTS	MOTHERWELL	41
	RANGERS	ABERDEEN	42
	ST. JOHNSTONE	CELTIC	43
ENGLISH DIVISION 13	ST. MIRREN	HIBERNIAN	44
	CLYDEBANK	AYR	45
	HAMILTON	MEADOWBANK	46
	KILMARNOCK	FORFAR	47
	MORTON	CLYDE	48
ENGLISH DIVISION 14	PARTICK	RAITH	49
	ALBION R.	Q. OF SOUTH	50
	ALLOA	EAST FIFE	51
	ARBROATH	QUEENS P.	52
	DUMFRIES	MONTROSE	53

† BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

★ Winning match numbers and supplementary number.

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 00555 0787 Australia Wide. Or, Sydney (02) 11520; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07) 11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm. Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	ARSENAL	WIMBLEDON	1	2-2★
	COVENTRY	MAN. UNITED	2	2-2★
	DERBY	CHELSEA	3	4-6
	LIVERPOOL	SHEFFIELD UTD.	4	2-0
	Q.P.R.	NOTT'M. FOREST	5	1-2
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	SUNDERLAND	NORWICH	6	1-2
	BLACKBURN	BRISTOL C.	7	0-1
	BRIGHTON	BARNLEY	8	1-0
	BRISTOL R.	LEICESTER	9	0-0
	MILLWALL	WATFORD	10	0-2
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	NOTTS. C.	HULL	11	2-1
	OLDHAM	WOLVES	12	4-1
	PORT VALE	OXFORD UTD.	13	1-0
	SHEFF. WED.	IPSWICH	14	2-2★
	SWINDON	CHARLTON	15	1-1★
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	WEST BROM.	PORTSMOUTH	16	0-0
	WEST HAM	MIDDLESBRO	17	0-0
	BIRMINGHAM	ROTHERHAM	18	2-1
	BRADFORD C.	CAMBRIDGE U.	19	0-1
	BURY	EXETER	20	3-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 5	CREWE	HUDDERSFIELD	21	1-1★
	FULHAM	BOLTON	22	0-1
	LEYTON O.	PRESTON	23	1-0
	MANSFIELD	CHESTER	24	1-0
	SHREWSBURY	WIGAN A.	25	0-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 6	SOUTHEND	GRIMSBY	26	2-0
	ALDERSHOT	HEREFORD	27	1-0
	BLACKPOOL	MAIDSTONE	28	2-2★
	CARDIFF	WALSALL	29	0-2
	CARLISLE	NORTHAMPTON	30	4-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 7	DARLINGTON	TORQUAY	31	3-0
	GILLINGHAM	BURNLEY	32	3-2
	HALIFAX	CHESTERFIELD	33	2-1
	HARTLEPOOL	LINCOLN	34	2-0
	PETERBORO	YORK	35	2-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 8	ROCHDALE	WREXHAM	36	2-0
	SCARBORO	STOCKPORT	37	2-0
	SCUNTHORPE	DONCASTER	38	1-1★
	WALSALL	ROCHDALE	39	1-0
	WOLVES	BLACKBURN	40	1-0



English division one										Dufferrine									
Liverpool	16	13	2	1	34	12	41	Hearts	17	5	7	17	26	13					
Arsenal	17	11	6	0	33	9	37	Hibernian	17	3	7	9	24	13					
Tottenham	17	8	6	3	31	19	30	St Mirren	17	3	5	9	13	11					
Crystal Palace	16	8	6	2	25	17	30	Scottish division one											
Leeds	16	7	6	3	26	17	27	Falkirk	19	11	4	4	40	20					
Manchester City	16	6	8	2	26	22	26	Hamilton	20	10	6	4	25	17					
Chelsea	17	7	5	5	30	30	26	Airdrieonians	19	10	4	5	40	27					
Wimbledon	17	6	7	4	27	23	25	Raith	19	8	8	3	30	22					
Manchester United	17	7	5	5	23	20	25	Dundee	18	9	5	4	28	18					
Norwich	17	7	2	8	28	28	23	Clydebank	19	8	4	3	35	32					
Nottingham Forest	16	5	6	5	22	22	21	Partick	19	6	4	4	27	24					
Luton	16	5	6	5	19	24	20	Queen's Park	19	5	9	5	29	27					
Aston Villa	16	4	6	6	17	18	18	Kilmarnock	19	7	5	7	29	30					
Southampton	17	4	4	9	22	32	16	Morton	20	7	4	9	26	31					
Derby	16	4	4	8	16	28	16	Ayr	19	4	7	8	23	32					
Everton	16	3	6	7	19	21	15	Forfar	18	3	6	9	26	33					
Sunderland	17	3	6	8	20	26	15	Brechin	19	3	4	12	22	45					
Coventry	17	3	5	9	15	22	14	Clyde	19	2	4	13	18	38					
Queen's Park Rangers	17	3	3	11	21	34	12	Scottish division two											
Sheffield United	16	0	4	12	7	30	4	Stirling	19	10	8	1	33	13					
English division two										Berwick									
West Ham	21	13	8	0	33	12	47	19	10	3	6	28	26	23					
Oldham	20	13	5	2	42	19	44	Stenhousemuir	18	8	6	4	33	24					
Sheffield Wednesday	20	10	8	2	40	22	38	East Fife	18	8	4	29	21	22					
Middlesbrough	20	11	4	5	36	16	37	Queens Park	17	9	3	5	23	14					
Notts County	20	9	6	6	29	25	30	Stranraer	18	8	2	8	28	29					
Wolverhampton	20	7	8	5	30	24	29	Alloa	17	7	3	7	25	19					
Millwall	20	7	7	6	30	24	28	Dumbarton	18	6	5	7	24	27					
Port Vale	20	8	4	8	31	30	28	Montrose	18	7	1	10	23	20					
Bristol City	19	8	4	7	28	29	28	Albion	18	5	4	9	20	33					
Brighton	19	8	4	7	30	38	28	Arbroath	18	4	5	9	22	17					
Ipswich	21	6	8	6	27	32	27	Queen of South	18	4	4	10	17	30					
Barnsley	20	6	8	6	28	22	26	East Stirling	18	4	3	11	15	37					
Bristol Rovers	19	7	5	7	25	28	23	English division one											
West Bromwich	21	5	8	7	25	28	23	Arsenal	2	Wimbledon									
Swindon	21	6	4	11	24	31	22	Coventry	2	Manchester United									
Blackburn	20	5	7	6	22	30	22	Derby	4	Chelsea									
Plymouth	20	5	7	8	22	30	22	Liverpool	2	Sheffield United									
Leicester	20	6	4	10	29	45	22	Manchester City	2	Tottenham									
Newcastle	18	5	6	7	20	22	21	Queens Park Rangers	1	Nottingham Forest									
Charlton	20	5	6	9	25	30	21	Southampton	1	Aston Villa									
Fulham	21	5	6	10	23	33	21	Sunderland	1	Norwich									
Reading	21	5	6	10	24	31	41	English division two											
Watford	21	4	7	9	24	19	19	Blackburn	0	Bristol City									
English division three										Brighton									
Grimsby	18	14	2	2	36	23	44	Bristol Rovers	0	Barnsley									
Leyton Orient	18	11	4	3	29	16	37	Millwall	1	Watford									
Bury	18	10	1	7	23	20	31	Oldham	2	Hull									
Bolton	18	8	6	4	29	23	30	Notts County	2	Wolverhampton									
Bournemouth	18	9	3	6	22	21	30	Port Vale	1	Reading									
Stoke	17	7	7	4	23	17	28	Sheffield Wednesday	2	Ipswich									
Cambridge	17	7	6	4	23	18	28	Swindon	1	Charlton									
Brentford	17	7	6	4	21	18	27	West Bromwich	0	Portsmouth									
Bradford	18	8	3	7	21	20	27	West Ham	0	Middlesbrough									
Birmingham	18	6	9	3	20	19	27	Playing tomorrow: Plymouth v Newcastle											
Tranmere	17	7	5	6	29	22	26	English division three											
Reading	18	7	4	7	27	23	25	Birmingham	2	Rotherham									
Huddersfield	18	7	4	7	23	23	25	Bradford	0	Cambridge									
Wigan	18	7	3	8	25	28	24	Bury	3	Exeter									
Swansea	18	6	4	8	17	23	22	Crewe	1	Huddersfield									
Preston	18	5	6	7	20	26	21	Fulham	0	Bolton									
Exeter	18	5	5	8	19	20	20	Leyton Orient	1	Preston									
Chesh	19	5	4	9	18	21	19	Mansfield	1	Chester									
Crewe	18	4	5	9	26	31	17	Shrewsbury	0	Wigan									
Mansfield	18	4	4	10	18	27	16	Southend	2	Grimsby									
Fulham	18	3	6	9	18	25	15	Played Friday:											
Shrewsbury	18	3	5	10	27	34	14	Bournemouth	1	Swansea									
Rotherham	18	2	4	12	19	37	10	Tranmere	0	Reading									
English division four										Playing Sunday: Stoke v Brentford									
Northampton	18	10	4	4	29	23	34	English division four											
Torquay	18	9	6	3	25	17	33	Aldershot	1	Hereford									
Doncaster	18	9	4	4	27	17	31	Blackpool	2	Maidstone									
Burnley	18	9	4	5	31	24	31	Cardiff	0	Walsall									
Darlington	18	8	6	4	27	16	30	Carlisle	4	Northampton									
Hartlepool	18	9	3	6	23	21	30	Darlington	3	Torquay									
Stockport	17	7	7	3	26	16	28	Gillingham	2	Burnley									
Peterborough	17	7	7	4	20	16	28	Halifax	2	Chesterfield									
Rochdale	18	7	6	5	25	19	27	Hartlepool	2	Lincoln									
Walsall	18	6	8	4	26	26	26	Peterborough	2	York									
Gillingham	18	6	6	6	26	24	24	Rochdale	2	Wrexham									
Scunthorpe	18	6	6	6	21	23	24	Scunthorpe	1	Doncaster									
Scarborough	18	6	6	6	21	25	24	Playing Sunday: Scarborough v Stockport											
Maidstone	18	7	2	9	31	25	23	Scottish premier division											
Carlisle	18	6	5	7	19	26	23	Aberdeen	1	Motherwell									
Cardiff	18	5	7	6	17	24	22	Celtic	1	Dunfermline									
Hereford	18	4	4	5	24	19	21	Hibernian	0	Dundee United									
Blackpool	18	5	5	8	25	25	20	St Johnstone	2	Hearts									
Stirling	18	5	4	9	24	30	19	St Mirren	0	Rangers									
Aldershot	18	3	8	7	28	41	17	Scottish division one											
Chesterfield	18	3	7	8	18	26	16	Ayr	2	Airdrieonians									
Lincoln	17	3	6	8	15	27	15	Clyde	1	Meadowbank									
York	17	2	8	7	14	21	14	Clydebank	1	Raith									
Halifax	17	3	4	10	18	29	13	Falkirk	3	Brechin									
Scottish Premier division										Hamilton									
Rangers	17	11	4	2	37	11	26	Morton	3	Kilmarnock									
Aberdeen	17	8	7	2	27	15	23	Postponed: Dundee v Forfar											
Dundee United	17	9	5	3	24	13	23	Scottish division two											
St Johnstone	17	7	5	5	24	23	29	Berwick	2	Dumbarton									
Celtic	17	6	4	7	22	22	16	Cowdenbeath	2	Stranraer									
Motherwell	17	4	5	8	21	21	13	Montrose	5	Albion									
								Queen of the South	1	Arbroath									
								Stirling	1	Stenhousemuir									

Schaefer — who will he leave out?

Apia has a striking problem

WHILE most clubs in the NSL complain about the absence of quality strikers, Apia Leichhardt coach Manfred Schaefer may find he has an embarrassment of riches in the next few weeks.

Schaefer had to battle injuries in the early weeks of the league, constant changes in his attack and a lack of time for his players to settle down.

But a couple of judicious signings and a gradual return of confidence has suddenly pushed Apia back into contention as a top five challenger.

Fighting for a place as strikers are David Batten, Peter Murray, Rod Brown, Tony Lemezina and Paul McFadden with further challenges from midfield strikers Alex Bundalo, Klaus Okon, Gerry Gomez, Brian Ellem and Shane Clinch.

Lemezina came from Canberra as did 19-year-old midfielder Brad Maloney who was at the Australian Institute of Sport but played with Blacktown.

The Sydney club placed a \$12,000 transfer fee on



ALEX BUNDALO

the youngster but his appeal was upheld, leaving him a free agent and he chose to sign with Apia despite training with Sydney Croatia and a late offer from Parramatta Melita.

"I had a look at him,

scored seven goals in his last three games with the Youth side while Rod Brown was full of running in his return from injury against Sunshine George Cross, even though he came on as a second half substitute.

McFadden and Lemezina have started to combine in recent weeks and their work rate has reduced the strain on Bundalo, allowing him to link more freely in attack.

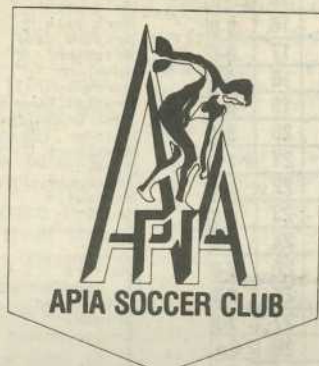
"I'd love to be in the top five by the half way mark and it's not too late," said Schaefer.

"We just concentrate on our program game by game and don't look too far ahead. Our physical condition is good and so is the confidence of the players.

"This team is playing a lot better than last year and things are finally



MANFRED SCHAEFER



thought he was definitely promising and signed him two days before we played Wollongong Macedonia," said Schaefer.

"That was his opening match in first grade and so far he's been one of the finds of the season."

Negotiations are continuing with Adelaide Hellas over injured defender Richard Miranda, but Schaefer is not hopeful they will be satisfactorily concluded.

He said Hellas had offered Miranda a free trial this year with the option to transfer at the end of the season for \$10,000.

"However a new Hellas board has since been elected and they want the money or he doesn't play.

"He was injured while still with Hella and it will be unfortunate if he is kept out for the whole season after working so hard," said Schaefer.

Batten, who didn't cost the club any fee, has



BRIAN ELLEM

starting to fall into place." — TED SIMMONS (AAP)

Staples commends anti-smoking move

BY TED SIMMONS of AAP

TOBACCO sponsorship of sport was denounced by a Federal Minister for promoting smoking at the expense of the health of young Australians.

And soccer continued its tough stand against tobacco when the Soccerroos ran a two-hour clinic for 200 Melbourne children to support the anti-smoking campaign.

Mr Peter Staples, Minister for Aged, Family and Health Services, announced a sponsorship deal under which the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse, in association with the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation, has joined the national buy out of tobacco sponsorship of Australian soccer.

He called on all Australians, and especially parents, to help push tobacco sponsorship out of sport and urged sporting organisations to resist the tobacco industry's strategies to promote its products through sport.

"Tobacco sponsorship has helped some sports directly with funds and indirectly by increasing exposure of sports," Mr Staples said.

"But up to 75 per cent of the funding allocated to a sporting organisation by

a tobacco company is for tobacco promotion. And that leads to an increase in the uptake of smoking by young people."

Mr Staples said the sponsorship would promote the Drug Offensive's national 'Smoking, Who Needs It?' campaign and its message that smoking and good health do not go together.

Australian Soccer Federation Chairman John Constantine, who attended the launch at Melbourne's Olympic Park, again predicted the Tasmanian Soccer Federation would be suspended because of its controversial decision to defy national soccer policy and accept a five year tobacco sponsorship deal.

"The national Drug Offensive is the right sponsorship for the sport. There is a natural affinity between the Drug offensive and soccer, which has possibly the largest participant base at youth football level of all the football codes," he said.

"We intend to promote our sport as a natural means of enjoyment, free of any association with drugs."

Mr Staples applauded the strong stand by the ASF and said that despite denials by the tobacco industry, cigarette companies targetted young people for their products.

SUMMER SOCCER SLACKENS

BY LOU GAUTIER

ROUND 10's dismal attendance of 15,979 brought the total NSL attendance, not including this round's crowds, to 215,762 spectators.

Though this still represents an increase of 3.8 percent over last season's attendances, I have the distinct feeling that the novelty of summer football is wearing off.

The enthusiasm that was evident in all quarters in the inaugural season of summer soccer last year is no longer present.

Media coverage is noticeably down, though better than it would be in winter months, and several clubs are drawing much less than last season.



The 15,979 attendance for Round 10 was, of course, affected by rain problems in both Sydney and Melbourne.

And that takes into account the fact that several of the attendances announced by NSL clubs do not match those released by the NSL office.

Clubs continue to inflate their home crowds — perhaps because they want to meet the criteria of the Bradley Report.

Total round attendances would immediately shoot up if the NSL instructed its clubs to spread their matches.

It's financial suicide to play all the games on Sunday; with the odd Saturday fixture, when Wednesdays and Fridays are proven drawcards.

Melbourne, which has no floodlit ground apart from Olympic Park, may be justified in playing all their fixtures on Sunday, but Sydney has no such excuse.

Melita — and occasionally Marconi — have shown the way by playing Saturdays, and others should follow by decongesting Sunday.

There's no reason why St George, Sydney Croatia, Marconi and Sydney Olympic can't get together and map out a schedule which would suit everyone.

This way all the clubs would get a fair slice of the pie.

As things now stand they are just grabbing a new crumbs.

Fleming is sacked, De Bruin is back!



A pensive Casey de Bruin ponders his comeback with Wollongong Macedonia — photo courtesy ILLAWARRA MERCURY.

WOLLONGONG Macedonia directors sacked coach John Fleming 10 games into the National Soccer League season less than two weeks after telling him his job was secure.

Fleming has been replaced by Casey de Bruin who took the club from the State League just 12 weeks ago.

Macedonia secretary Bob Kezovski said Fleming was sacked following an emergency board meeting.

Kezovski said it was a unanimous decision and de Bruin was reappointed immediately.

Two weeks ago Macedonia president Alec Kencevski said Fleming's position at the club was secure.

At this time Kencevski said Fleming's job at Macedonia was as safe as his own.

Macedonia is on the bottom of the NSL. Fleming said he was disappointed with the board's decision.

He said he was appointed coach within days of the start of the new NSL season.

The former Wollongong City player and coach was given the job when de Bruin quit to spend more time at his painting business.

Fleming said he took on a team in which there were very few players up to NSL standard.

"I inherited horrendous injury problems and before one particular game had a bare 13 players with which to fill out a team sheet," Fleming said.

"Some of my players have also been going out week after week carrying injuries because we were short

staffed."

De Bruin he said he had watched the team play twice recently — the NSL cup tie against Wollongong City and the scoreless league draw away to St George.

"I think the team has been playing the wrong style of football," de Bruin said.

"They are sitting back waiting for things to happen rather than attacking the opposition and that is not their style."

"They won the State League undefeated by playing positive football."

De Bruin was critical of some of the club's recent signings and said he did not think they complemented the team's style.

— AAP



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Coaches' poll



EDDIE KRNCVIC: ignored by the coaches polled for their Socceroo choices.

Mike Hickman (Sydney Olympic)
Zabica
Tapai
Bernal
Hooker
Kalantzis
Gray
Milosevic
Saad
Arnold
Farina
Bozinovski
Wade
Edwards
Filan

Tony Vrzina (Sydney Croatia)
Filan
Bozinovski
Wheatley
Bernal
van Egmond
Patikas
McCulloch
Milosevic
Wade
Farina
Arnold
Hrist
Zelic
A Vidmar
Saad

Manfred Schaefer (Apia)
Davidson
Blagojevic
Blair
Jolevski
Milosevic
Gray
Ellem
Tapai
Farina
Arnold
Franken
P Okon
Wade
Ollerenshaw

Raul Blanco (Melita)
Filan
Zelic
Davidson
Bernal
Kalantzis
Slater
Milosevic
Patikas
McCulloch
Arnold
Farina
Callinan
Wade
Tapai
A Vidmar

Zoran Matic (Adelaide City)
Zabica
Zelic
Davidson
Tobin
T Vidmar
Gray
McCulloch
Tapai
Saad
Farina
Arnold
Filan
Milosevic
Durakovic
Trimboli

Frank Arok (St George)

Filan
P Okon
A Vidmar
van Egmond
Tobin
Petersen
Jolevski
Kalantzis
Nastevski
Farina
Arnold
Zabica
Ollerenshaw
Bernal
Trimboli

Warren opts out

FORMER Socceroo captain and media personality John has withdrawn his application for the position of promotions and media officer for the Australian Soccer Federation.

Yesterday he said: "I thought the matter over, and decided that I must pull out."

"It didn't seem ethical to go ahead, as I am still under contract to SBS-Television, especially as they did not get the ASF's television rights."

— KEITH GILMOUR

JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY

Hurrah! The Socceroos come out of their hibernation

THE Socceroos, tragically virtually non-existent since their World Cup exit twenty one months ago, will be back in action in 1991.

Croatia), Raul Blanco (Melita) and Frank Arok (St George) — what would their starting line up plus four reserves be if the Socceroos played tomorrow, with all European-based players

available.

Only four of the host of "Aussies Aboard" would be selected according to the coaches' highly rated views — Frank Farina (Club Brugge), Graham Arnold (Roda), Chris Kalantzis (Panathinaikos), with Jimmy Patikas (AEK Athens) on the bench.

Despite the varied opinions on whether the team would play with three or four midfielders, two or one central defenders or two or three attackers, the coaches agreed on many aspects.

For example, Farina and Arnold were in every coach's starting line up, the goalkeeper is either John Filan (St George) or Robert Zabica (Adelaide City) — three votes each with Filan getting the nod with reserve bench preferences.

Ned Zelic (Sydney Croatia), Andrew Bernal (Sydney Olympic), Ernie Tapai (Adelaide City), Chris Kalantzis (Panathinaikos), Branko Milosevic (Melbourne Croatia), Tommy McCulloch (Marconi) and Ian Gray (Marconi) received at least half the votes.

Here is the coaches' Socceroo team in playing formation, if it played tomorrow.



CHRIS KALANTZIS



FRANK FARINA



ALAN DAVIDSON

Goalkeeper
John Filan (St George)

Libero/sweeper
Ned Zelic (Sydney Croatia)

Central Defenders
Andrew Bernal (Sydney Olympic) Alex Tobin (Adelaide City)

Midfielders Ian Gray (Marconi)
OR
Ernie Tapai (Adel City) Tom McCulloch (Marconi)
Alan Davidson (Melbourne Croatia) Branko Milosevic (Melbourne Croatia) Chris Kalantzis (Panathinaikos)

Forwards
Graham Arnold (Roda) Frank Farina (Club Brugge)

Tapai of course is now out of the picture due to injury.

RESERVES

Robert Zabica (Adelaide City)
Ian Gray (Marconi) or Tom McCulloch (Marconi)
Jimmy Patikas (AEK Athens)
Abbas Saad (Sydney Olympic)
Paul Wade (South Melbourne)

STARTING LINE UP VOTES

6 votes: Farina, Arnold
4: Kalantzis, Milosevic
3: Bernal, McCulloch

Gray, Filan, Zabica, Zelic, Davidson, Tapai
2: Patikas, Saad, Davidson, van Egmond, Tobin
1: Okon, Bozinovski, Wheatley, A Vidmar, T Vidmar, Hooker, Blagojevic, Jolevski, Ellem, Wade, Slater, Petersen, Nastevski.

Other players mentioned as reserves only: Franken, Ollerenshaw, Edwards, Hristodoulou, Trimboli, Callinan, Durakovic.

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Third Czechoslovakia game is up for grabs

BY KEITH GILMOUR

NEWCASTLE and Perth are two possibilities for the third game against Czechoslovakia early next year.

Australian Soccer Federation general secretary Alan Vessey said: "International matches have

been set for Wednesday January 30 in Melbourne and February 6 in Sydney.

"The other match must be in a city where there is no interference with National Soccer League fixtures, and Brisbane wasn't in-

terested.

"We have had a word with Newcastle and are awaiting their reply."

New Zealand was glad to pick up home and away matches against Australia.

They also have a dire need to get national team practice as

a warm up for the England visit.

With the commitment for Olympic Games qualifiers from May 19/26, the international clashes will be before then and just after the NSL grand final.

At this stage, the Socceroos' commitments are expected to be:

January 30: v Czechoslovakia in Melbourne.

February 6: v Czechoslovakia in Sydney.

May 8-18: Home and away games against New Zealand.

June 2: v England Sydney Football Stadium.

June 8/16: President's Cup in South Korea.

Plus a word to "Kossie"

Drug Offensive launch is a Melbourne success

JEFF OLVER COLUMN

UNTIL
NEXT
WEEK



KEEP
KNOCKING
THEM
IN

"TOBACCO sponsorship of sport promoted smoking at the expense of the health of young Australians."

These were the words expressed by the Federal Minister for the Aged, Family and Health Services Peter Staples, when announcing the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation's Sponsorship deal for the Australian Soccer Federation.

This Sponsorship will promote the Drug Offensive's National "Smoking, who needs it" campaign and its message that smoking and good health do not go together.

The launch presented an opportunity to deliver this important message to two hundred school children, who, with their teachers, attended Olympic Park and enjoyed a morning of soccer activity and fun with myself, Paul Trimboli, Mike Petersen and George Petrov.

State Director of Coaching Tim White co-ordinated the morning's program, and ABC's David Hill complemented soccer on its brave initiative in setting an example to all other national sporting associations.

Kossie

The ABC's format of presenting NSL Soccer on Monday nights has improved beyond recognition and will continue to do so.

The inclusions of John Kosmina on the team is a very positive step, as John's experience and knowledge of the game can only enhance the programme's credibility.

However "Kossie's Corner" has to realise that there is life outside Sydney.

His recent presentations about development of the game in schools has left one thinking that there is a new discovery called "Coaching Clinics in Schools."

States other than New South Wales must be bewildered about this new discovery.

Maybe it's time it was discovered by clubs, John, especially National Soccer League clubs, but did you know that the Premier of Victoria, Mrs Joan Kirner, said recently that the game of soccer is now played in every primary school in Victoria.

That hasn't just hap-

pened by accident, but by careful planning and sheer hard work by the state directors of coaching in Victoria over the last fifteen years.

This planning included the bold initiative taken by the current Director of Coaching, Tim White, who four years ago initiated plans to have myself employed to do this important work in schools in my capacity as development officer at the Victorian Soccer Federation.

We have conducted clinics in 1990 for approximately 10,000 children.

That's just Victoria, John, and I know the other states work very hard at delivering the message to schools.

I look forward to future editions of "Kossie's Corner".

Meanwhile, have a Happy Christmas all you soccer readers and Best Wishes for 1991.

JOHN KOSMINA

PICK OF THE POST

I wish to protest at the admission charges at National League matches this year.

A keen fan (of Apia Leichhardt), I was looking forward to attending several of their home games this season, but will not be doing so.

Why? Because as I like to take my two sons along and occasionally my wife, too, it will cost me a fortune.

The only time we went as a family, I was out of pocket for \$55 when you include soft drinks and hot dogs for the kids.

No soccer game in Australia is worth that much.

And I thought that the NSL was trying to make their competition one for the family!

I am afraid that their greed has ruled THIS family out.

A Sunday picnic is far cheaper, thank you.

The NSL has to become more competitive financially to win its fight with the other summer sports who don't charge so much.

We are in a recession and every dollar counts.

Please wake up NSL before it is too late and nobody bothers to turn up at your matches.

A.ROSSI
LAKEMBA, NSW



NSL clubs must woo new and old fans

BY DAVID BULLOCK



The 43,000-plus crowd — a ground record — at the Sydney Football Stadium last year for the World Cup tie between Australia and Israel demonstrated that soccer will attract huge crowds with proper promotion.

IT's about time each and every club in the NSL had a close look at what they are giving the paying supporter for their hard earned dollar.

The transition to playing in the warm summer months has been a modest success; crowds often show their approval by flocking to the weekend fixtures.

But once they are enticed into the grounds, little else is done to accommodate their patronage, apart from watching the game itself.

Sure, clubs provide facilities where fans can purchase food and drink, but there is a price to pay for consuming the goods, and it is usually a very steep one at that.

There will always be the hard core supporters who will follow their side week in week out regardless of the facilities or the efforts made by the clubs to introduce a total entertainment package.

But forget about the new, inquisitive soccer supporter who is giving the game a chance to at least compare it with other summer rival sports of ever returning, unless some radical changes are made and clubs using a little common sense and some of their weekly turn over.

So how can clubs make the necessary improvements?

Each club should provide a well produced match day programme that gives the supporter a memento to take home as well as giving the fans a chance to get to know the players and the club's progress on and off the field, instead of being kept in the dark.

At the same time it would make revenue for the clubs.

I must take my hat off to the Sunshine George Cross club, who have taken a great deal of time and effort to produce a quality programme that is sold on a donation basis.

The programme is always snapped up like hot cakes, and you will rarely find a copy lying on the ground at the end of a game.

It also adds a touch of professionalism that is sadly lacking in the game.

Could you imagine fans going to an Aussie rules game and not being able to buy a programme for the game?



Baton-twirling can add to crowd enjoyment.

There would be an absolute riot!

Another step that needs to be looked at desperately is the marketing of club merchandising within the NSL.

Wherever you go in the world to a soccer match, there is always plenty of colour from fans wearing their team shirts, scarves, hats, etc, but such is not the case here in Australia.

You may see a sprinkling of fans at games fortunate to obtain some form of club items

showing off their colours.

So why not let a large number of fans be able to come to the matches decked out in their club colours and make the game more colourful?

Unfortunately the answer is very simple.

With clubs always penny pinching, the financial commitment in this area would be too great a risk if merchandise could not be sold at a great rate to regain the capital that had been laid out.

Franchising the clubs out into the retail world is a solution that the ASF commissioners must seriously consider in due course.

Other sporting codes have undertaken this procedure with great success.

The market has been exploited very successfully, and the money generated back through sales has helped the progression of clubs by leaps and bounds in a short space of time.

Clubs should seriously start to investigate the opening of supporters clubs as an avenue to keep harnessing their loyal support, and at the same time giving the fans a chance to become more involved.

World wide, supporters clubs have proved that the fans are prepared to get behind the club.

Imagine clubs in the NSL having their own supporters clubs...

Members could stage their own matches against other clubs, organise away travel and generally help a group of supporters who follow the same team to become friends instead of passing strangers.

It would also further unite the club, and this can only benefit everybody, over the years to come.

Melbourne Croatia's sudden turnaround

BY GREG BLAKE

IF there was a tangible display of the relief felt by Melbourne Croatia's players when senior coach Ante Grgic was "demoted" recently — and I believe there was — it seemed to come tumbling out on the park just four days after the news had filtered through of the coach's demise.

Croatia, admittedly playing against a Marconi side without a recognised goalkeeper and a man short, went out and trounced the grand finalists of the past three seasons 6-0.

NEW MELBOURNE OFFICE

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY is now located in more modern offices on the 2nd floor, 276 Russell St, Melbourne.

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Contact our Melbourne editor, Greg Blake, for news items, as well as your advertising requirements.

A record defeat for the Sydney side and an equal record win for the coachless Croatia.

It could, of course be argued that the subsequent 3-3 draw with Sydney Olympic the following week lacked a vital spark, especially

as the team was three ahead after 49 minutes.

But this time they lost George Hannah in a 58th minute send off for a second yellow card, and the damage was done.

I believe it is no secret that most of the

squad were unhappy with Grgic.

The players, who managed to ignore a verbal attack from about 100 disgruntled spectators at training on Friday following Grgic's departure, played like a weight had been lifted from their shoulders against Marconi.

Grgic's departure may not be a cure-all for the 1989 and 1990 finalists, who were admittedly going passing well on the table.

But in my opinion there is no doubt that, had the senior coach of eight weeks stayed on, the situation, which had been like an explosive powderkeg for many weeks, would have steamrolled out of control.

Since Grgic's departure little has come from the Somers St camp, although president Steve Mandekic has conceded that Grgic had experienced communication problems with many of the players.

Although neither the players nor the club have spoken out since Grgic's departure my belief was that Grgic continually refused to acknowledge the opinions of even his most senior players.

I believe he rarely allows balls at training and had the players running laps and doing hurdles (a recent training session was reported to consist of 18x400 metre sprints, each to be run in under 64 seconds).

He spent up to 20 minutes in pre-game speeches and expected them to be translated too speedily; thus the English speaking players taking the field were often unsure of their instructions.

Grgic didn't use a specialist goalkeeping coach and David Miller participated in training with outfield players only.

I allow there may be other clubs in that position, but I feel that Melbourne Croatia should be better placed.

Club supporters were divided in their opinions of Grgic, but more than one rang this scribe to support the clubs decision to 'demote' the senior coach.

One club source confirmed that the above mentioned reasons were a "fairly accurate" guide to why Grgic lost his place.

Review Group in Vic major sponsorship

BY GREG BLAKE

THE Review Group, an insurance broking group, has become one of the Victorian Soccer Federations' major sponsors for the first ever Premier League season in 1991.

The lucrative new sponsorship deal was launched at a function held at Toorak last

week.

Under the guise of its sporting arm, the Review Sporting Service, the Review Group will take on the Sponsorship of Victoria's main pre-season cup competition, now to be known as the Review cup.

It will replace what has previously been known as the Ampol cup, Buffalo cup and Gold cup.

The Review Spor-

ting Service will also sponsor awards for the top goalscorers in each of the Victorian Divisions next season.

Review group executive director Ian Dear said at the launch that he was "thrilled" at the prospect of becoming a major sponsor of the VSF.

As well as being major sponsors for the VSF, the review Sporting Service is involved in sponsorship of Carlton, Collingwood, StKilda and Essendon AFL clubs, Vic swimming, Greyhound racing, Roller Hockey and Basketball.

Dalziel, Crainie

Gordon Dalziel, once on the books of South Melbourne Hellas, continues to impress in the Scottish First Division.

He is at present the second leading goalscorer with his club, Raith Rovers, while former Wollongong City and South Melbourne Hellas star, Danny Crainie, is at present in good form with his club Airdrie.

The Scottish first division outfit are tipped to be heading to Championship honours this season.

— DAVID BULLOCK

SEND your stories and photographs to AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY. Team and action photos will be welcomed. Address all material to ASW, PO Box 406, Broadway 2007.



Klaus Okon (Apia Leichhardt, dark shirt) and South Melbourne's Angie Postecoglou at Lambert Park. Photo by STEPHEN GOSCH.

Adcity seeks peace with referees

ADELAIDE City is likely to hold a peace-making meeting with referees in SA after a fortnight of confrontation.

Matters came to a head after Sergio Melta was sent off and called to the disciplinary committee to answer a further call of using abusive language to SA referee Tom McRoe.

But there has been a 'feud' between City and local refs for several years with City preferring interstate whistlers for its home games.

City president Charlie Caruso now would welcome a clear the air meeting.

★★★ You sometimes wonder just how transfer seeking players operate.

A recent scenario saw a high profile State League midfielder approach a club asking if it was interested in his services.

He was politely told he was not on its shopping list.

Next breath, it is reported the club in question is chasing him — perhaps just adding a touch to his own bargaining power with other clubs.

★★★ Adelaide City has received an enormous championship set-back with achilles tendon surgery in Melbourne for Socceroo midfielder Ernie Tapai.

Tapai, who has been having a dynamic season, collapsed early in the 1-0 against St George.

He had injured the ankle which had not been causing him trouble. Ironically, he had an achilles strain in the other.

★★★ The big man is back. Eric Norman has returned to soccer as coach of Division One amateur side Rostrevor United.

He takes over from Gerry Campbell, who did not seek retention of the role.

Norman left soccer last year when he was replaced as coach of Salisbury by Bob Wincer.

— ALAN CLARK



Awaritefe's three goals

Melbourne Croatia striker, Francis Awaritefe, made an impact on G.M. Vauxhall conference non-League side Barnet, during a visit in their off season.

Awaritefe played a number of friendly matches for the North London club and scored three goals during his visit, twice against Kempston Rovers and a spectacular goal against English First Division side, Coventry City.

He also was given star billing on the club's pre-season video which recorded all the matches played.

Commentator Richard Clayton opened the video by saying, "Highlights of our pre-season, you will notice a player with hsi hair in a bun on this show."

"His name is Francis Awaritefe and he hails from Australian football".



Winners can laugh, losers can please themselves! That could be what South Melbourne's Peter Tsolakis is saying as he celebrates another club goal.

JOEYS BOUNDED AHEAD ON TOUR

THE Australian Under 17 Joeys squad had an excellent run on its South American tour.

The results speak for themselves, but even though both internationals against Chile were won, the best of their opponents had a margin in skill.

The tour gave coach Les Scheinflug the chance to sort out his top players and tactics ready for the Oceania World U17 qualifiers in Napier, New Zealand next month.

The winner qualifies for the World Cup in Ecuador commencing on August 16 next.

China, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates have already qualified, along with host Ecuador.

GAME 1 NOV. 22

AUSTRALIA vs GIMNASIA Y ESPGRIMA in Buenos Aires

Karamalis, Bot, Josevski, Dee, Coutouvidis, Usalj, Campagna, Carbone (capt), Kalegeracos, Kiratzoglou, Trpcevski.

Subs: Moore, Healey, Peña, Marcolino, Farrugia, Iocca, Wardle.

Half-time: 1-0. Full-time: Australia 1 (Campagna 39min), Gimnasia 0.

GAME 2 NOV. 25

AUSTRALIA vs CHILE (INTERNATIONAL) at Colo Colo Stadium, Santiago

AUSTRALIA: Karamalis, Bot, Josevski, Healey, Dee, Usalj, Campagna, Carbone (capt), Kiratzoglou, Kalegeracos, Trpcevski.

Half-time: Chile 1 (Silva, pen.) Australia 0. Full-time: Australia 3 (Kalegeracos 62, 76), (Kiratzoglou 71 pen) Chile 2 (Silva 30, Rifo 74).

Substitutions: Iocca for Campagna, Peña for Trpcevski 55min. Macolino for Usalj 86min. Bot sent off (dangerous tackle) 80 min.

GAME 3 NOV. 28

AUSTRALIA vs CHILE (INTERNATIONAL) at Viña Del Mar

Karamalis, Bot, Josevski, Herley, Dee, Marcolino, Iocca, Carbone (capt), Kalegeracos, Kiratzoglou, Usalj.

cos, Kiratzoglou, Usalj.

Half-time: Australia 1 (Iocca) Chile 0. Full-time: Australia 2 (Iocca 23, Trpcevski 52) Chile 0.

Substitutions: Trpcevski for Usalj (half-time), Campagna for Iocca 57min, Farrugia for Kiratzoglou 75min.

GAME 4 DEC. 2

AUSTRALIA vs VALPARAISO WANDERERS (U17 and Reserve Grades) at Valparaiso Horario

Wardle, Dee (capt), Josevski, Coutouvidis, Moore, Macolino, Campagna, Peña, Kiratzoglou, Kalegeracos, Farrugia.

Full-time: Australia 0 Wanderers 0.

Substitutions: Carbone for Peña, Bot for Dee, Healey for Coutouvidis half-time. Iocca for Farrugia, Trpcevski for Campagna 65min.

GAME 5 DEC. 5

AUSTRALIA v UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA Under 19s at San Carlos Apoquindo, Santiago.

Full-time: Australia 2 Universidad Catolica 2.

GAME 6 DEC. 7

AUSTRALIA v UNION ESPANOLA at San Laura Sadium

Full-time: Australia 2 Union Espanola U17 0.

AUSTRALIA: Wardle, Bot, Healey, Moore, Macolino, Josevski, Carbone (capt), Kiratzoglou, Kalegeracos, Farrugia.

Substitutions: Peña for Trpcevski (half-time), Coutouvidis for Healey (50min), Usalj for Macolino (60min), Iocca for Bot (65min), Campagna for Farrugia (65min).

GAME 7 DEC. 8

AUSTRALIA v COLO COLO U17 at Monumental Stadium

GAME 8 DEC. 11

AUSTRALIA v UNIVERSIDAD CHILE



The Aussie Joeys are a happy bunch after beating Chile's under 17 National team 3-2 in Santiago in front of 40,000 spectators.



GALAPITO — the mascot of the 1991 under 17 World Cup in Ecuador.

Whistle stops on Joeys tour

• Game 1 vs Gimnasia y Esgrima, Buenos Aires.

Entertaining match against skilful players who expect to visit Australia next February.

Lorenzo Campagna scored the only goal in the 39th min but Australia failed to accept several other scoring chances.

• Game 2 vs Chile, Santiago.

Early game to Colo Colo v Española (crowd 40,000).

Australia struggled in the first half, down 1-0 at the break.

But the team finished strongly and was in charge over the last 15 minutes.

Each side awarded a (fair) penalty kick. Win was well received by the big crowd.

• Game 3 vs Chile at Viña Del Mar

Chile were sharp early, but suffered an unexpected setback when midfielder Darren Iocca caught the 'keeper off his line and lifted the ball from under on the right into the far corner.

The speed and skills of the Chileans often had Australia doing the chasing.

But, again Australia finished the stronger and Vasco Trpcevski's brilliant direct free kick over the defensive wall into the left side of the net left the Chilean 'keeper stranded.

• Game 4 vs Valparaiso Wanderers in Valparaiso.

Play was made difficult by a strong wind and ground surface that was well grassed but bumpy.

Steve Wardle, playing his first game in the Australian goal, and his Chilean counterpart each kept his goal intact with one brilliant save apiece.

• Game 5 v Universidad Catolica U19

See report Page 12, ASW December 10, 1990.

• Game 6 v Union Espanola in Santiago.

The Australians took their unbeaten record in South America to six games with a 2-0 win over Union Española Under 17s.

At the Estadio Santa Laura, striker Alex Kiratzoglou scored in each half to give Australia its fourth win of the tour with two games drawn.

Paul Dee and Craig Moore, the youngest player in the squad, combined on the right and Moore's centre found Kiratzoglou, who gave his side the lead 30 seconds from half time.

Four minutes after the break, Kiratzoglou struck again as he outpaced the Española defence to score with a 15 metre drive on the run.

Seal, Nastevski, Greg Brown are the most effective strikers

BY GREG BLAKE



GREG BROWN: effective NSL scorer.

THE answer to Marconi's perplexing problem, of who should be first choice striker — David Seal or Zlatko Nastevski — is clear.

Berti Mariani should play 'em both.

Nastveski and Seal, along with Melita's speedster Greg Brown, are the most games-per-

goal effective scorers in current day NSL competition.

Seal, Nastevski and Brown are the only three players in the league to average better than a goal in every other game.

Relative newcomer Seal, last season the league's top scorer when playing at Sydney Croatia, has the best

average in the league.

Seal scores at a rate of a goal every 1.54 games he plays in NSL competition.

Nastevski chimes in with a goal every 1.74 games and Greg Brown sits second on the table with a goal every 1.6 games.

Another Brown, Apia's Rod, is next best with an average of a goal every 2.1

games.

According to this exclusive ASW chart David Seal is currently the most effective striker in the country.

The chart is calculated to the end of round 9 this season and counts only league games and goals played by each player.

To earn a ranking each player must have played at least ten league games.

ASW EFFECTIVE GOALSCORERS CHART (TOP 25)

RANKING	NAME	CLUB	GAMES	GOALS	AVE. GAMES PER GOAL
1st	David Seal	Marconi	37	24	
2nd	Greg Brown	Melita	33	20	1.54
3rd	Zlatko Nastevski	Marconi	87	50	1.60
4th	Rod Brown	Apia	176	84	1.74
5th	Marshall Soper	Melita	216	86	2.10
6th	Kimion Taliadoros	Sth Melb	63	25	2.51
7th	Francis Awaritefe	M. Croatia	54	21	2.52
8th	Ossie Latif	S.G. Cross	105	39	2.57
9th	Ivan Kelic	M. Croatia	54	20	2.69
10th	Warren Spink	Preston M	125	45	2.70
11th	Tony Krslovic	S. Croatia	78	26	2.78
12th	Pat Brodnik	Woll. City	99	30	3.00
13th	Phil Stubbins	Heidelberg	33	10	3.30
14th	Nick Theodoropoulos	Apia	40	12	3.30
15th	David Lowe	Marconi	231	68	3.33
16th	Stuart Stevenson	Heidelberg	116	34	3.40
17th	Andrew Zinni	Preston M	159	46	3.41
18th	Paul Trimboli	Sth Melb	104	30	3.46
19th	Scott Ollerenshaw	Syd. Olympic	119	34	3.47
20th	Steve Maxwell	Adel. City	202	57	3.50
21st	Kevin Hagan	Syd. Olympic	79	22	3.54
22nd	Abbas Saad	Syd. Olympic	102	28	3.59
23rd	John Markovski	Marconi	125	34	3.64
24th	Graham Fletcher	Woll. Mac	105	28	3.68
25th	Zeljko Jurin	Syd. Croatia	72	19	3.75

The complications of club management

BY MIKE JOHNSON



I remember when one was just a player of professional soccer and life seemed relatively simple.

Then one became a coach and manager and life became more complicated as one dealt with other soccer players.

Then a manager-coach and one dealt with committeemen, other coaches and players.

Now my role at Southern Districts, newly promoted to State League Division 1, is undefined, but one is in touch with councils, potential sponsors, players, committeemen, junior clubs, the press and so on.

Thus soccer life has become more complicated and complex than ever.

The reason for this is the rapid climb to State League status of a relatively small club only three years old.

We are based in the Liverpool area of Sydney.

Whilst we have been predominantly Turkish supported in our short history, it is our goal to embrace the multicultural support of the city of Liverpool, which seems a worthy goal.

To do this one has to be highly successful on the field of play and competent in management off it.

As one looks at some of the leading clubs in Sydney, there is quite a difference in the way they have been set up and run.

The management style at Sydney Olympic, for example, is so different to that at Melita.

The needs of both clubs has influenced the management strategy.

Melita, with a smallish spectator base, mainly of Maltese background and now trying to include the general Parramatta region, has had to be very tight in its use of funds.

This has imposed a discipline on it which has been beneficial to its stability and future prospects.

Olympic, since its beginning, has attracted the majority of Greek support in Sydney and it remains the standard bearer for those of Greek extraction.

This large spectator base was sufficient to pay player wages and general soccer expenses, without the need of a social club.

However, as expenses have escalated in the National League, the 'hands in the pocket' windfalls from loyal Greek supporters, plus the large spectator base has not been sufficient to keep Olympic financially stable.

It currently carries a large debt which stops it from building its own club and perhaps its own stadium which are so beneficial today.

Olympic obviously

would not be a management model for other clubs to follow, as would not Sydney Croatia, which has suffered from the same sickness as Olympic because of the plentitude of its large spectator support.

Croatia plays on a ground owned by the King Tomislav Croatian social club — indeed we could almost call it a stadium with the improvements being made to it.

However, Croatia, like Olympic, has suffered a major failing from inception — lack of executive stability.

One can hardly guess how many presidents and coaches Croatia has had in the last two decades. The same applies to Olympic.

St George is the model to follow in executive stability with Frank Arok, Alex Pongrass and Les Bordacs having had an enormous influence on that club which at one time in the 70's was Australia's leading club.

As its Hungarian support has diminished over the years, Saints have been able to compensate completely with supporters from the St George district.

Yet St George remains the most successful former ethnic club in its pursuit of integration into a metropolitan district.

Which gives some idea how far we have to go to embrace multicultural support in Australia's professional soccer clubs, especially at National League level.

APIA is another National League club which is currently trying to catch up with infrastructure and general development.

Its glory days were in the late 60s when it should have done those things — particularly the upgrading of its ground and the social club.

For my club, Melita seems the most appropriate model.

It is hard to envisage when we would be able to buy the nation's top players, every other year, as does Marconi with the benefit of good crowds and a profitable and splendid social club.

Melita has hard working officials and a long-standing, shrewd, hard working president in Sam Vella.

That, plus a long standing and talented coach in Raul Blanco has made the difference for Melita.

Melita has prospered

while Blacktown City has struggled, when probably the opposite should have occurred.

Melita has had its key, long standing executive there since inception, plus the same coach for many years.

Blacktown has had numerous coaches and several changes in administration.

A talented, long-standing coach or manager-coach is a definite asset at any club.

Rale Rasic was a big factor in Marconi's early successes.

Arok at StGeorge, Blanco, Melita and now Mariani at Marconi all have shown that talent and long term stability on the field and off it produces long term successful clubs.

Within any club must be one person who is able, through their abilities, to raise money.

John Warren talked of how far too many Australian players go to overseas clubs for very small transfer fees.

I agree.

Additionally, too many players at State League and National level are going around with free transfer fee clauses in their contracts when it expires.

This is opposed to the numerous players of little ability who are put on the list for several hundred dollars which effectively puts them out of the professional game.

Just as does the \$30,000 transfer fees put on players worth \$3,000.

This all needs looking at by NSW president Peter Thorne and his counterparts in other states.

Nevertheless, it is important to raise money from a whole variety of sources.

Someone capable of doing this is a great asset in a soccer club.

Yes, life as a soccer player is relatively simple — pleasurable and mostly about receiving.

For those in positions of responsibility it is not simple and they can give alot without much receiving.

Strangely enough, though it seems that giving does bring human beings much satisfaction.

Otherwise there would not be so many doing it.

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still needs your help

Please send donations to your nearest Legacy office.

Chit Chat ... Chit Chat ... Chit Chat



Looking all the world like a white butterfly in flight, this shot shows an empty Sydney Football Stadium. The ground is the runaway favourite to stage the Australia — England international on Sunday June 2. It is expected that the arena will be crammed full of Socceroo supporters, together with a big contingent of the Union Jack brigade. National coach Eddie Thomson will have prior matches against Czechoslovakia to bed his squad down. Also to be considered is the selection of expatriates having an off season in Europe. This is an encounter that calls for the best footballers Australia can offer.

Fred Raymond, who was the manager of Sydney Prague in the now defunct club's heyday in the late 1950s and early 60s, passed away last week after a short illness. He was 76. Our condolences to Fred's family.

Eddie Krncevic, due in Australia next month for an eight-day visit during the Belgian winter break, is expected to have a press conference where he will outline his plans to act as European agent for the ever-increasing band of Aussies seeking to play in Europe. First he will seek the blessing of the Australian Soccer Federation.

Work at Wollongong Macedonia's new sports complex at Ber-

keley on the NSW South Coast will start next week. A contract has been signed for the first stage of the project — earthworks priced at \$350,000 — and the next stage will be to lay the foundations for a clubhouse.

Heidelberg coach Len McKendry has released disappointing Scottish import Archie McGeachy to create a visa vacancy for another overseas player and is negotiating with another Australian player.

Heidelberg missed out on snaring West Australian Jeff Curran. The West Australian captain decided to spend a month with his family instead. The 29-year-old Curran played for St Mirren before moving to

Perth four years ago. With Athena he won the WA Rothmans Gold Medal twice.

Sunshine George Cross are stunned with the news that Sunshine Council will charge the club \$40,000 for the rental of Skinner Reserve this season.

SBS reporter/presenter Andy Paschalidis, who started his career in the media with ASW, and wife Jane, are expecting their first child in August. Congratulations!

Sydney Croatia have called off plans to bring Yugoslav star Baz Sliskovic out as a guest player, citing "exorbitant" financial demands from his club. Mulhouse, not Lens as reported.

Graham Jennings is still keen to add to his 78 appearances for the Socceroos. The Apia fullback, now 30, says he is playing better now than when he played for Australia. The Newcastle-born veteran, barring injury, will mark his 300th NSL appearance

on March 17 against Sydney Olympic.

Sydney Croatia held a special meeting last week to expedite the building of their much-delayed grandstand in a bid to satisfy the recommendations of the Bradley Report. Club president Laurie Grgich says the future of the club is at stake unless its home ground is upgraded.

Sacked Melbourne Croatia coach Ante Grgich is to take the club to the Appeals Tribunal for breach of contract.

FIFA president Joao Havelange and general secretary Joseph Blatter are expected in Auckland in March to attend the Centenary Celebrations of the New Zealand Football Association.

Signed from Sydney Croatia, Wollongong Macedonia's Zelko Jurin and Steve Go-

jevic made their debuts for their new club against St George. Gojevic had scarce two minutes in his first appearance, and has to work hard over coming weeks to build his fitness.



ALAN VESSEY

If the position of Australian Soccer Federation chief executive is advertised, one certain applicant would be ASF general secretary, Alan Vessey. The former Melbour-

nian turned Queenslander and QSF secretary, now based in Sydney, has created a fine impression with his commonsense approach to soccer affairs. However, it would not surprise if the commissioners wish to see who is available, both outside and inside the game, and call for applications through the press to test the market.

Marconi's advertisement for a soccer administration manager brought widespread interest. Club authorities are now culling through some excellent applications. Apart from a flair in administration, marketing and promotion ability is called for.

Good news for Wollongong Wolves! Ray Vlietstra has recovered from his broken leg layoff, and is now seriously working on his match fitness. Striker John Danzo is keenly looking to regain a place.

Some NSL clubs are finding their fans are keener on 6pm kick-offs, rather than the previous 7pm. Sydney Croatia and Wollongong Macedonia made moves. Wollongong City is also doing so.

Willie Vassallo has been re-appointed as coach of Green Gully for the forthcoming Premier League season. But Vassallo's job will not be made easy with the news that striking duo Tommy Daly and Kevin Harrison seem certain to join Morwell Falcons, while midfielder Jeff Faulkner has moved to Perth.

Thomastown has squashed any rumours surrounding coach Kenny Murphy by confirming his re-appointment for the 1991 season. The former Socceroo has been linked to the vacant coaching position at Melbourne Croatia in recent weeks.

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Tony Pezzano, signed by Wollongong City, is back to the ranks of NSL goalkeepers, competing for his place with George Bouhoutsos.

The transfer fee of \$2,000 was a steal for the Wolves, after an original asking price of \$10,000 with no takers.

Pezzano has appeared for the defunct Sydney City, Apia Leichhardt and Adelaide Hellas in a distinguished

career.

Wolves coach David Ratcliffe said: "Gaining Pezzano is a double bonus for us."

"Our back-up goalkeepers are very young. Now Pezzano and Bouhoutsos can work together with the youngsters and everyone will gain."

Today's picture by JANSUZ KAMMA.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCCER SCENE

WITH ALAN CLARK



Alby Kidd saddles up for 1991

New Adelaide Hellas coach Alby Kidd will lay it on the line to his squad preparing for next season — shape up or ship out.

Kidd, appointed on Friday, will try to get things organized now to have the players buzzing for 1991.

"There will not be many new faces," he said.

"Several players we could have been interested in are fixed up at other clubs.

"All the players at Hellas know what sort of person I am. They know what kind of a performance turns me on or off.

"I demand 150% effort. Some will have to improve a bit if they are to be in the squad.

"I want a first team squad of 18 players. Those not in the side will play with the youngsters in the reserves.

"Our U18 side will be a really young side. It is irrelevant to me if we win the Youth or Reserve Leagues.

"I want a pipeline of good young players coming through. That is the policy of Hellas to get kids coming through the club.

"Some young players in the 14-15 age bracket have been recommended to me. I'll look at them to see if



ALBY KIDD

we can attract them to the club so we can help develop them."

Youth development is a cornerstone of the Bradley recommendations for the revamped NSL in 1992 and Kidd appreciates the importance of the policy.

The new supremo, though, also wants to be involved in negotiations of players' contracts.

"It is important to be involved in that area" he said.

Meanwhile, season 1991 could be the swansong for Birkalla Eagles coach, Neil McGachey.

McGachey, after more than 20 years in the game in SA and now vice-president at

Birkalla, has told the Eagles this will be his last season as the Camden club's coach.

"It could also end my involvement in soccer," said McGachey.

"There is just too much job pressure. For the past nine years I have worked 16 hours each day.

"I have been in Canberra, Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney, and Perth in the last fortnight.

"With my own management consultancy business it is impossible to dump soccer on top of that too.

"I have told the club this will be my last as coach."

Towering defender

Les Matiscsak has agreed terms with the club for next season — the last of the established players wanted by the Eagles to do so.

"We are in the

comfortable position of having a break over Christmas knowing we have the kind of squad we want to do well next year," said McGachey.

Refs lay down Law

SA referees are willing to meet Adelaide City officials any time to discuss the game in the state.

But new secretary of the SA division of the Australian Soccer Referees Federation, Andrew Merchant said the referees were not about to be pushed around by anyone.

"I was interested to read the comments of Adelaide City president Charlie Caruso saying he would welcome discussion with referees," said Marchant.

"Our aim is to formulate good relations within the game — but not to the detriment of anybody.

"We are willing to discuss matters but we will not be pushed around."

Marchant said referees in SA were concerned by comments made by a leading City official after his club's game with Preston.

That matter is still to be heard by the NSL, following a report sent by refs from SA.

Premier SA referee Tom McRoe, mean-

while, looks likely to be named Referees State Director of Coaching.

John Miller, who retired from top grade refereeing last year on reaching the compulsory retirement age of 50, also will be given a key role, possibly as state coach.

Top panel ref John Seymour-Griffin has taken over as referees physical education officer.

REGIONAL NEWS

ASW is always keen to publish some stories and pictures from main regional centres throughout Australia.

Publicity officers; here is the chance to make your district wider known in the game.

Address material to ASW, PO Box 406, Broadway 2007.



Flounders joins Salisbury.



NEVILLE FLOUNDERS

SALISBURY is delighted with the capture of former Adcity defender Neville Flounders.

And the club should welcome back Sean Greaves before the Ampol cup.

"Sean Greaves has confirmed that he will return, possibly before Christmas," said coach Bob Wincer.

Talks are going on with Foundation player of the year Paul Wilde in a bid to keep him at Steve Jarvis Park.

Mercurial Tony Gasparetto is back training with the Berries and looks sure to stay.

Wincer said it was a thrill and a privilege to sign a player of Flounders' ability.

"He is part of our commitment to bring good quality soccer to the northern suburbs," said Wincer.

"We have purchased a good clubman. He has shown that with the service he has given Adcity for so many years.

"He is not one of those who hop on the merry-go-round from club to club.

"He has a first-class attitude and has respect for the game.

"Those involved in the game, in turn, have the utmost respect for him."

PARA Hills has completed the signing of Terry Kent, from Modbury.

The Golden Grove club player of the year looks sure to add bite and power to Para's midfield for its return to the First Division.

With Martyn Crook unlikely to play again because of his coaching commitment, Para could be in the market for an experienced keeper.

Dave Appleby completed his move from Para to Modbury.

TWO visiting Scottish players look sure to be fixed up for next season's Foundation SA league action.

Ronnie Webster and Ken Tosh, both 21, are here on a year's working visa and have been training with local clubs.

Both played in the Scottish Junior League with Arbroath Vics.

Beograd could lead the race for their signatures.

POLONIA has been shocked by a turnaround by former Kiwi international striker Billy Wright.

The big Geordie had been training at the club but he has packed his bags and left SA to return to Victorian State League club Morwell Falcons.

Wright could have been a striking replacement for John Christopoulos who has left Polonia to join Adelaide City.

SA PLAYER Graham Latham looks on the verge of being offered contract terms by English First Division club Coventry City.

The Salisbury and former State midfielder has had trials with a selection of clubs, but Coventry looks favoured to sign him if he can weather the bitterly cold English winter.



Nick Politis (Adelaide Hellas) at left has the football within control as Alex Tobin (Adelaide City) casts a stern eye on events. Photo by JANUSZ KAMMA.

Gruicic produces Canberra talent

BY GRAHAM COOKE

IT has begun again for Canberra Soccer Club, with assistant coach Ivan Gruicic, setting out in the task of shifting local hopefuls for places in the NSW State League youth squad.

And if the past is any guide, at least a couple of the youngsters sweating it out in the dust of Charnwood Oval this month, will eventually find their way into the club's senior side.

In his first season in charge Gruicic provided Steve Vanzetti and Sasha Jancevsi for the firsts, this year Andy Ravanello, Tommy Milin and Jason Swan will probably sign full contracts.

"I'm really happy the club's youth policy is proving such a success", Gruicic one of the stars of Canberra in the early years of the National League, said.

"After all, every player signed in this way means one less transfer fee to pay."

And while he counts the players he passes on to Tom Sermanni and the first team as his main achievement, it is worth noting his Youth League seasons usually bring success on the field as well.

"We've twice reached the grand finals of the Youth League — and in the year before that, when I was in charge of Croatia Deakin's under-19's we had a clean sweep of all the ACT titles," he said.

"I don't mind admitting that I like to win, and this time the target will be nothing less than the championship and the play-off title."

He expects good things from two defenders, Paul "PJ" Roberts and Johnny

Simic, but is quite prepared to accept that the star of the 1991 season could easily be a total unknown.

"The policy of this club is that we give everyone an equal chance," Gruicic said.

"I would ask any player who is young enough and interested enough to turn up to Charnwood on Tuesday or Thursday for a trial."

"It's an exciting time for the club with the real possibility that we could go straight from the NSW State league season into the 1991-1992 Quit National League. The opportunities are virtually unlimited."

CANBERRA coach Tom Sermanni, anxious to sign a replacement for departed goalkeeper Peter Gunning, is interested in the news that former AIS scholarship holder Paul Jones is thinking of making a comeback.

HOLDER HIGH and Alfred Deakin High picked up the two ACT schools titles in matches held over from the previous term.

It was left to goalkeeper Peter Griel to give Holder the years nine and ten title 5-4 in a penalty shoot-out after the scores were locked at 1-1 at the end of extra time.

Best for Holder were Tiro Spiros, Joe Campagna, Simon Hayes, and Griel. For their opponents, Kambah, Neil Russell, Joe Skitic, Michael McCone and Tim Bohm were the stars.

In the semi-finals Holder beat Canberra High 2-1 and Kambah beat Campbell High 4-1.

The year seven and eight final was a clear-cut win for Deakin 6-1 over Campbell.

Monaro juniors chart course



BAZ GIAMPAOLO — his Inter Monaro is no more.

INTER Monaro Soccer Club has quietly laid down and died.

Its last hope of salvation disappeared with the cancellation of a meeting called to discuss a proposed entry into the ACT League.

Now the club which just six seasons ago was a serious contender for the National League championship, is no more.

Monaro juniors president Wayne Graham said the club just seemed to have faded away.

"There are no officials, no players, no-one to talk to or negotiate with," he said.

"It simply does not exist any more."

Graham said the meeting was to have involved his juniors club, Monaro seniors, former

backer the Marco Polo Club, neighbour Queanbeyan Macedonia from the ACT second division, and representatives of the ACT League.

"The Marco Polo Club said it would not be coming as it is no longer involved in soccer, while it was apparent that the Monaro senior club would not have a representative," he said.

"On the basis of that, the league cancelled the meeting."

Graham said his main concern now was safeguarding the interests of Monaro Junior club which last year had 153 members and has plans to expand.

"We certainly do not mean to go out of existence and we face two

realistic alternatives," he said.

"The first is to attach ourselves to another club — and to that end I am entering into discussions with Queanbeyan Macedonia — or we can pursue our own identity."

"I have been given an undertaking by the Marco Polo Club that I can have the use of Inter Monaro's ground free of charge for as long as it remains a soccer field."

"We have had an encouraging response to our summer seven-a-side competition, with 15 to 16 teams signed up."

"I am looking at this as a fresh start — a new identity — we have a duty to the kids in this area and this is the best way we can go to fulfil that duty."

— GRAHAM COOKE

Latin America survives in Darkest Canberra

BY GRAHAM COOKE

LATIN America, suspended from the ACT league for the final round of the 1990 season after disturbances at one of its games, was readmitted to the competition on President Ron Watkins' casting vote at the ACT soccer federation annual meeting.

Watkins made his decision after a vote of eligible members had ended in a 6-6 tie with one abstention, and despite the fact that the executive recommended the controversial third division club be kicked out.

"It is quite obvious there is insufficient agreement that Latin America should be expelled" he said.

"I would have pre-

ferred to allow the club back in on the payment of a bond but I am told that I would be out of order imposing any conditions at this stage."

"However, I would stress to Latin America that any further transgressions will incur the full wrath of the federation."

The treasurer of Latin America, Aldo Calvini, stressed that the incident was a matter between players and the referee.

Three Latin American players have already been dealt with by the disciplinary tribunal.

"We are a well supported club and it would be a great shame if it were closed off because of the actions of a few" he said.

The question of whether Latin America be readmitted as a

full or associate member will be decided later.

The Croatia Deakin Club's secretary-manager, Kris Andrakovic, was elected Federation Treasurer after the meeting had agreed to accept a nomination from the floor.

Other officers are: President, Watkins; vice-president, Con Poulos; Executive Member, Ian Primrose; senior league chairman, Don Rushan; junior league chairman, Brian Gollidge; protests and disputes panel, David Clarkson; Eddie Robertson, Bill Arnold, Reg Lark, Graham Plath, Carol Parker, Mike Black, Bob Smoothey; disciplinary panel, members of protests plus David Childs; patrons, Margaret Reid, Bob McMullen, John Langmore, Ros Kelly.

ACT Federation accused of dragging its feet

BY GRAHAM COOKE

THE simmering dispute between Canberra Soccer Club and the ACT Soccer Federation has erupted again with a leading club official claiming the Federation is lukewarm in its support of Canberra's attempts to enter the Quit National League.

Frank Crnkovic, president of Canberra's backer, the Croatia Deakin Club, said the Federation had been "dragging its feet" in response to a request it issue a declaration of support.

"If it will not — if it has other plans for Canberra soccer — then I wish it would tell us," he said.

"If the Federation wants to go its own way then we might as well go back to the ACT League and leave things to it."



Crnkovic said Canberra had tried to accommodate the wishes of the Federation, even to the point of taking the difficult decision of dropping "Croatia" from its title.

"That was not a decision taken lightly, and one that is still opposed by some people within the club, but we did it because we thought it would serve the interests of soccer generally."

"We have made some improvements at



Deakin Oval, and there are others planned, but is there any point in developing the ground further if we do not have the support of the Federation as the representative of the soccer community in the ACT?

"We are not asking for money — just a simple message of support which will show the rest of Australia that Canberra is united in its attempt to re-enter the National League."

His criticisms drew a quick response from ACTSF president Ron Watkins who said Canberra was trying to circumvent a time frame within which all the relevant issues would be settled.

"The key is the Australian Soccer Federation meeting on December 3 during which final decisions on the recommendations of the Bradley Report will be made," he said.

"Anything we do in the ACT could be irrelevant in the light of what happens there."

"Frank Crnkovic asked to address a meeting of our executive, but this Federation has its own annual meeting coming up."

"While no great changes in personnel are expected it would still be improper for the outgoing executive to try to make such important decisions in the last few days of its existence."

ILLAWARRA

Bob Fryer rebuilds at Shellharbour

SHELLHARBOUR's new coach Bob Fryer has undertaken the daunting task to rebuild a competitive first grade squad, backed by two equal good lower grades.

Injuries to key players hindered progress considerably last season.

Fryer takes a club over-rich of talent in the junior ranks, looking for the right approach to bring it out of the pool of youngsters.

Each individual senior player registered with Shellharbour this year has been invited to re-sign, plus ambitious newcomers interested to have a

look at Shellharbour's set-up.

To get things rolling players are being called together early next year for a "Fitness Trial" on training grounds next to Warilla Bowling Club.

Further training nights are planned in January 1991, starting once per week on Thursday 10 at 6pm.

Last Friday week's pre-Christmas meet of players, supporters, committee and guest of honour Alderman Cec Glenholmes with his lady, saw coach Bob Fryer and Manager Derek Bradburn making the rounds among the players.

By the way, juniors are invited to watch the senior players at training.

— OTTO BADER

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Adcity builds up a five point margin

BY ROY HAY

ADELAIDE City continued to race away at the top of the National Youth League (Southern Division) when it completed its tenth game without defeat in a 5-2 win over Heidelberg United at Olympic Village on December 9.

Heidelberg's coach, John Kennedy was struggling to field a team and had to use a reserve keeper in an outfield role, but Adelaide showed no mercy.

Its goals came from Jamie Perin with 2, Michael Brooks, Joe Guastella and Alf Iannello.

Sam Papadopoulos and Stavros Mangos replied for Heidelberg.

Adelaide City lead by five points from Preston and Sunshine.

Adelaide's closest pursuer Preston Macedonia demolished Melbourne Croatia Colts 8-1 at Connor Reserve.

Nick Georgopoulos completed a hat-trick and there were two apiece to Vitale Ferrante and Joe Markovac, while Zdravko Trajkovski added the other.

Jani Suric got a consolation goal for the Colts.

Sunshine George Cross defeated Northcote City 4-1 at John Cain Reserve in a match which kicked off at 6pm.

Wayne Attard, Athan Zacharias and Mitchell Cattermole put Georgie three up at the break and Agim Sherifovski added one quickly thereafter, while John Keranis pulled one back for Northcote with seven minutes to play.

The bad news for Sunshine was the loss of Paul Foster with an ankle injury in the first five minutes.

South Melbourne Hellas kept up the momentum with a convincing 3-1 win at Denby Park over

Brighton.

Peter Nikolakopoulos showed he can score goals with two more added to his total of five for the season and Peter Kyrikilis added a third.

Altona Gate conceded an early own goal against South Melbourne Hellas Colts, but quickly fought back to win 3-1 at Middle Park.

Peter Nicovski scored twice in the first half for Altona Gate and Trajce Latomanski, the man of the match, rounded off his performance with the third goal.

Springvale City and Caulfield City had a spirited 1-1 draw at the Frank Holohan Complex.

Leading strikers on both sides, Benny Cacciotti of Springvale and George Alikakos of Caulfield, were on target, but both teams had a player sent off.

Melbourne Croatia scored three times in the last twelve minutes to beat a plucky Geelong City 3-1 at Somers Street.

Peter Sorocuk in the City goal had only one direct shot to save in the first half, and it was not till English import Dale White sent a header over him in 78 minutes that the deadlock was broken.

Stipe Jerbic made it two, while Jason McAuliffe of City was receiving treatment for injury but Craig Plummer pulled one back for City with five minutes to go.

Vinko Buljbasic made the points secure for Croatia in the 88th.

Saints Youth down Academy

BY PAUL GOODWIN

THE St George youth team consolidated their lead at the top of the competition ladder when they celebrated a 3-1 win over rivals within the club, the Sydney Academy of Soccer.

After a mix up on Friday when officials presented themselves at a training session expecting a match at 5pm, the game eventually went ahead on Saturday at St George Stadium, as originally scheduled.

In the 23rd minute the St George side went ahead as a cross from Shaun Freestone, touched on by Adam Poric, was tidily finished by Adam Ciantar.

Three minutes into the second half more good teamwork led to Zoran Adioski making it 2-0.

A cross by Jason Petrides from the right found John Kakakios, who got past one defender before sending the ball into the goalmouth for Adioski to steer it home.

In the 65th minute, a shot by Ciantar was handled in the area by an Academy defender, and Kakakios sent the keeper, Dragan Pupovac, the wrong way with a well taken penalty to bring up a 3-0 lead.

When Craig Macgregor was tackled fiercely in the 75th minute, he suffered the indignity of sustaining an injury as well as losing

the ball to Mario Jerman, who proceeded to plant the loose ball in the net, making the final score more respectable for his Sydney Academy side.

Sydney Olympic were in action at the same ground on Sunday, and had little difficulty in accounting for Apia Leichhardt 3-0.

Grant Lee put Olympic one up in the 13th when he ended a spell of sustained pressure with a well taken goal from three metres.

Although Apia kept Olympic at bay until the 80th, it was no great surprise when Louis Di Blasio put the home side 2-0 up with a seven metre shot after Craig Sharpley had provided the through ball.

For Apia their brilliant keeper Frank Mikuletic saved an almost unstoppable 20 metres drive by Di Blasio in the 50th, and was kept busy by dynamic right winger, Peter Lahanas, who despite receiving little support, kept a steady stream of crosses flowing.

With a minute remaining, substitute Craig Collins, from 10 metres out, turned in a cross from the right to make it 3-0 for Olympic.

Sydney Croatia maintained their consistent form of late when they beat Wollongong City 3-0 at Edensor Park.

Gabriel Gonzales

broke the deadlock in the 42nd and Greg Carluccio got his team's second in the 73rd.

Gordon Scott was able to make it 3-0 in the 73rd for Croatia's sixth win of the season — one which sees them putting additional pressure on the leaders.

The AIS side came away from Brandon Park with a sound 4-1 win at the expense of luckless Wollongong Macedonia.

The all Italian derby at the Valentine complex in Newcastle went the way of the home side, Highfields Azzurri 2-0 over visitors Marconi.

Goals either side of halftime did the damage, and it could have been three but a 15 metre shot by goal-happy Dean Adamson ricocheted off the post, across the face of the goal and away to safety.

Highfields hit the front when, after a good run by Paul Searant in the 42nd minute, Brad van Epan was able to put away a 10 metre shot at the far post.

Marconi had the benefit of the breeze, but could make little headway, and although evenly poised the game got away from them in the 49th, thanks to a cracking goal by Azzurri.

Ricky Bucci slipped the ball to Keiran Harris from a 35 metre free-kick, and Harris blasted the ball into the top right corner, giving Mark Schwarzer

no chance.

Bucci set up Adamson for the last-minute missed opportunity, but Highfields supporters were delighted with the final outcome.

SOUTHERN DIVISION 16 December

South Melbourne Hellas 2 (Nikolakopoulos, Soldalovic) South Melbourne Hellas Colts 0, Melbourne Croatia Colts 1 (Suric) Brighton 1 (og), Sunshine George Cross 1 (Sherifovski) Preston Macedonia 0, Caulfield City 3 (Diniotis, Filis, Alikakos) Melbourne Croatia 2 (Grbac, White), Adelaide City 10 (Di Gioia 4, Brooks 4, Talladira 2) Springvale City 0, Altona Gate 1 (Georgievski) Heidelberg United 1 (Papadopoulos), Geelong City 3 (Rakic 2, Plummer) Northcote City 4 (Zouzounis, Peppas, Hatzilazaridis, Ranalli).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Adelaide City	11	10	1	0	45	10	21
Sunshine GC	11	7	2	2	25	18	16
SMH	11	6	3	2	28	14	15
Preston Mak	11	6	2	3	26	13	14
Caulfield	11	5	4	2	18	14	14
Heidelberg	11	5	3	3	20	18	13
Melb. Croatia	11	6	0	5	32	20	12
Altona Gate	11	5	2	4	19	14	12
Geelong City	11	2	3	6	18	29	7
Northcote City	11	3	1	7	19	34	7
SMH Colts	11	3	1	7	9	25	7
Melb. Cr Colts	11	2	2	7	14	30	6
Brighton	11	2	1	8	7	20	5
Springvale	11	1	3	7	11	32	5

LEADING GOALSCORERS
Carlo Talladira Adelaide City 10, George Alikakos Caulfield City 9, Michael Brooks Adelaide City 8, Jani Suric Melbourne Croatia Colts 6, Nick Papadopoulos Heidelberg United 7, Mitchell Cattermole Sunshine George Cross 7, Michael Nikolakopoulos South Melbourne Hellas 6, Peter Nikolakopoulos South Melbourne Hellas 6, Craig Plummer Geelong City 6.

— ROY HAY NORTHERN DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St George BSC	10	8	1	1	33	15	17
AIS	9	7	2	0	25	10	16
Sydney Croatia	9	6	1	2	20	3	13
Melita Eagles	9	5	2	2	15	8	12
Sydney City	9	4	4	1	13	7	12
Wollongong C	10	4	2	4	11	14	10
Highfields	10	4	2	4	19	23	10
S.A.S.	9	4	1	4	18	12	9
Apia Leichhardt	9	2	1	6	12	19	5
Marconi	9	2	0	7	9	19	4
Wollongong M	10	1	1	8	7	25	3
Adamstown	9	0	1	8	10	34	1

NSL Youth League North

Results round ten — Dec 9

AIS 7 (Kutlesovski 2, Milicic 2, Bizimovski, Sorrentino, Crevari) Highfields Azzurri 3 (Brad Vanepan 2, Oliver).
Marconi 0 Melita 1 (Martincich).
Adamstown Rosebud 0 Sydney Croatia 6 (Peter Badzaric 2, Greg Carluccio 2, 2 o.g.)
Wollongong City 0 Sydney Academy 3 (Ollier, Harper 2 (1 pen)).
St George 3 (McGregor, Freestone, Poric) Wollongong Macedonia 0.

RESULTS: St George 3 Syd Academy 1, Syd Olympic 3 Apia Leichhardt 0, Syd Croatia 3 Woll City 0, Woll Mac 1 AIS 4, Highfields 2 Marconi 0.

NSL YOUTH LEAGUES TOP SCORERS as at 10.12.90

7: David Batten (Leichhardt), John Kakakios (St George)
6: Adam Poric (St George), 5: Stephen Corica (AIS), Adam Ciantar (St George)
4: Pablo Cardoso (Olympic), Dean Adamson (Highfields), Peter Tsekenis (Sydney Academy), Aldo Mattincech (Melita), Ante Milicic (AIS), Shaun Freestone (St George), Daryl Ziederman (St George).
3: Keiran Harris, Brad van Epan (Highfields), Greg Carluccio (Sydney Croatia), Craig McGregor, Mario Gonzales (Croatia), Tony Veleski (Sydney Academy), Damien Smith (Adamstown), Danny Petkovic (Wollongong City), Peter Badzaric (Sydney Croatia).
2: Andrew Charlwood (Marconi), Alex Aravena (Melita), Glen Johnson (Marconi), Steven Kacev (Adamstown), Nick Radecki (AIS), Sasha Dimoski (Wollongong City), Paul Searant (Highfields), Gabriel Lopez (Marconi), Graig Penfold (Highfields), Zoran Ilic, Andy Harper, Andrew Ollier (Sydney Academy), Shane Williams (Melita), Shaun Williams (Wollongong City), Marc Oliver, Ico Kutlesovski, Murray Crevari (AIS).

TONY PANGALLO, QUEANBEYAN: Regret we cannot supply the material requested — Ed.

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Coaches are now wanted for our 5th Division Federation squads, playing in the NSW Soccer Federation competition.

Applicants to contact persons below, prior to December 19, 1990.

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☎ (02) 50 9959
or
MR JOHN KOYKLIDIS
☎ (02) 718 0651

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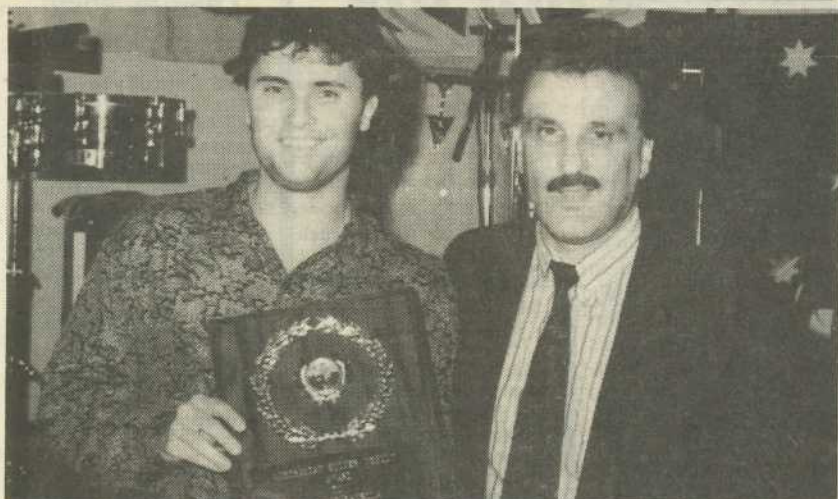
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AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY — DECEMBER 17, 1990 17

Top Ethnic Cup star



Bruno Ciaramella, the brilliant defender from Uruguay, was the winner of the "AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY AWARD" to the best player of the 7th Sydney Ethnic Soccer World Cup.

Futsal latest

Aussies and Kiwis to clash in the ACT

BY DAVID SMEDLEY



THE upcoming Australia Day long weekend will see the best state representative squads and individual indoor soccer teams from Australia and New Zealand clash at the 1991 National Indoor Championships.

Kicking off on Saturday, January 26 the competition, held at the Australian Institute of Sport, will determine in two separate divisions the best representative and individual teams at these, the 12th Annual Championships.

The Bruce Stadium, Leverrier Crescent, Bruce, ACT, will be the venue for the matches as well as the opening ceremony which will take place on Saturday, 26th January, prior to representative matches.

All teams are expected to be assembled within the hall at 9.30am.

Divided into two components, the representative (state) teams will play on Saturday 26th January, 1991 and the individual team competition will take place on the 27th and 28th.

State teams are required to wear their respective State colours and to carry a current Identification Card stamped by the State Association.

Individual entries must consist of teams that play on a regular basis in a local centre.

Competition throughout the tournament is guaranteed to be of the highest quality.

Not only will there be fierce inter-club and interstate rivalry, Australian teams will be also playing for national pride as they battle

it out against squads from across the Tasman.

Representative teams from New Zealand will play in the State Component as State sides and teams from the East City Indoor Club (Auckland) will participate in the individual section.

This, however, will not be the only inspiration for players to give it their best.

During the Championships, National squads for International competitions will be selected.

All selected players will be formally notified by mail after the tournament and final team selection will be held in Sydney over the Easter long weekend.

The contesting age groups in the individual team section will be boys: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, Youth (18,19), All Age men and Masters — 35 and over.

Women: 13, 15, 17, All Age.

Groups in the State section will be Boys: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, Youth, All Age and Masters.

Women: 13, 15, 17, All Age.

The 1991 National Championships are conducted by the AFF Board of Directors National Championships committee under the chairmanship of Gary Rice, Eane Whitton, Albert Umpleby, Bob Corbett and Ian Timms, and secretary, Joe Brent.

Entry forms can be

obtained from the AFF Co-ordinating Office, PO Box 249, Revesby, Sydney, 2212. Phone: (02) 771 1677.

The closing date for entries is: State teams — 31st December 1990, and for Individual teams Friday 11th January, 1991 at 5pm.

The draw will be available at the entrance of the AIS on Saturday 26th January from 7.30am to 9.00am for all teams.

Every team must register at this time.

National Indoor League

In a recent general meeting of the Futsal Federation, May 18th 1991 was chosen as the commencement date for the National Indoor Soccer League.

Much emphasis will be placed on the 'home and away' system in which high standard facilities will be, to a large degree, used to aid in the increased public profile which the national competition is hoping to attract.

The State Sports Centre at Homebush will be one such high standard facility, as will the Sleeman Sports Complex located at Chandler, Brisbane — one site used for the Brisbane Commonwealth Games, and the National Indoor Arena in Canberra.

A minimum of eight teams will compete in the competition, including clubs from Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and Canberra, with the other areas yet to be decided.

The League will be competed for approximately three months, culminating on August 31st, 1991.

Denmark qualifies for Women's Soccer World Cup

IN the second leg of the European Championship quarter final held last weekend in Italy, Denmark beat the Netherlands, 1-0, in extra time to qualify for the 1st World Cup which will be played in China next November.

Unfortunately Sweden was eliminated from the World Championship following a 0-0 draw with Italy.

The leading goal scorer in the 1990 Swedish national League, Lena Videkull, will tour Australia with Malmo Football Club in January.

She has played 52 internationals for Sweden.

They became Swedish League champions in 1990 following their most successful year since the famous Scandinavian club started a women's team in 1971.

Australia will play three tests against

Malmo as part of its preparation for the Oceania qualification finals which will be played in Sydney in May.

Malmo has many international players and its standard could be compared to the national team.

Our national players will face tough opposition as Malmo will also field Danish internationals Bonny Madsen and Karina Seffron, as well as Swedish internationals Eva Zeikfaldy (26 games), Annelie Burman, Malin Lundgren and Ing-Marie Olssen (9 each).

Zeikfaldy (left back) was born in Sweden of Hungarian parents and is regarded as the best Malmo player.

Malmo men's team played in Australia last year but only finished 6th in the 1990 Swedish league.

The women's team won 19 games in a row this season and have never played outside of Europe. Further information: Heather Reid (06) 248 5834.



MALMO VISIT TO AUSTRALIA

Tour Itinerary

Jan 25 to Feb 6, 1991

January

Sydney

Friday 25

Arrive Sydney

Saturday 26

Free — Australia Day

Sunday 27

5pm Australia v Malmo
St George Stadium

7pm St George v Sydney Olympic
St George Stadium
(National League)

Monday 28

Free

Tuesday 29

6pm Australia v Malmo
(Club Marconi) [to be confirmed]

Canberra

Wednesday 30

Travel to the Australian Institute of Sport, Canberra

Thursday 31

Canberra sight-seeing tour

February

Friday 1

Free — shopping in Canberra
6pm Australia v Malmo
(Deakin Oval) [to be confirmed]

Gold Coast

Saturday 2

Bus overnight to Queensland

Sunday 3

Rest on the Gold Coast

Monday 4

Sun and surf
Visit pineapple plantation

Tuesday 5

Sun and surf, sight-seeing

Wednesday 6

Depart Australia

Referee Arppi Filho ends great career

BY MARIO ETCHART



ONE of the most prestigious referees in the world has retired after a brilliant career.

Brazilian Romualdo Arppi Filho, 51, has blown his last whistle after 30 years controlling soccer matches all over the world.

The pinnacle of his career was in the Mexico '86 World Cup, when his refereeing dream came true.

He controlled the final between Argentina and West Germany.

Arppi Filho made his debut in 1960, at the age of 21.

He refereed a match between Ponte Preta and Ferroviaria, for the Sao Paulo championship, one of the professional regional championships in Brazil.

As South American journalist Jorge Barraza reported at the time: "Five minutes before that game, a young man, 21 years old, slim, 169 centimetres tall emerged from the tunnel.

"Many smiled; others foretold his failure, arguing that he was too young and looked to frail and small. The players will not respect him.

"But to the surprise of all, everything went normally, the footballers played, the referee directed skilfully and succeeded in making himself respected.

"The best thing that could happen to the little man was for his performance to go unnoticed, as proof that he was right.

"At the end of the match those who distrusted him turned to praise him."

Arppi Filho had just made his debut in First Division without suspecting that one of the most outstanding

careers in soccer had just begun.

The same year Arppi Filho was designated to control the final of the Brazilian Cup between Palmeiras and Fluminense, two big guns, traditional rivals from Sao Paulo and Rio respectively.

At the time Altafini played for Palmeiras and Tele Santana for Fluminense, and Joao Havelange was president of the Brazilian Football Confederation.

Born in Santos, on February 7, 1939, Arppi Filho was an amateur referee in 1955.

At the age of 24, in 1963, he became a FIFA referee, a rank he maintained during 26 of his 30 years of activity.

Overall Arppi Filho refereed more than 2,000 matches; hundreds of them for the Libertadores Cup, Youth championships, World Cup qualifying rounds, three Olympic games, the Toyota Cup; one World Cup in Mexico where he controlled the final.

But the list goes on: Women's international in China, first Five-a-Side soccer World Cup in the Netherlands, the Inter American Cup, the Preliminary games of other continents such as New Zealand v China and the National championships of Ecuador, Colombia and Paraguay.

His marvellous career was founded on two fundamental virtues; a complete knowledge of the Laws and a strong personality.

Romualdo Arppi Filho will be always remembered by the world soccer community as a respected and highly regarded referee and, above all, as a true gentleman.

Liverpool City shock Southern Districts on the outer

FROM RON HUGHES

WHILE all responsible bodies involved in soccer are busy looking for the best ways of implementing the principles enshrined in the Bradley Report, some aren't.

I believe Liverpool City Council, for reasons known only to themselves, and against the recommendations of their own Sports Council, seems to be turning a blind eye to a universally accepted assessment and are pushing soccer in Liverpool back to the dark ages.

After years of wrangling between Liverpool City Soccer Club and Southern Districts Soccer Football Association over the right to play soccer at Ernie Smith Reserve, Liverpool Council has stunned everyone with the rejection of Sthn District's application for the use of their own home ground, since the Association's inception, for the 1991 season.

This affects the District U11 & U12 Metropolitan Reps, the U13, U14, U15 and U17 Youth League teams plus the southern districts United U19 and First Grade squad.

It seems that once again Liverpool City Soccer Club, with only a couple of senior teams playing in Division 6 State League, with no junior teams and no interest in junior development programs, have been given priority over the 5,000 odd junior and senior players competing in SDSFA run competitions which encompass the Liverpool — Fairfield council areas.

Southern Districts, who, in conjunction with Marconi, preceded the Bradley Report by some 18 months with a full junior development program employing professional coaches, players and administrators in



Southern Districts State League team star Birol Sertbas.

consultation with Association officials.

The cooperative agreement has been directly responsible for an already measurable improvement in District Rep teams with good showings in the Metro Reps and with the Youth league squads being promoted to Division 1, plus the certification of several hundred Level 1 coaches from local clubs.

With three Championship winners, (U9 Marconi Juniors, U14 Liverpool Albion, U18 Liverpool Albion) and three runners up (U12 Marconi Juniors, U13 Mount Pritchard, U16 Abruzzi) in the statewide Commonwealth Bank Championship of Champions, plus the U14 State Championship Title going to Liverpool Albion, local sides are also sharing directly in the improving standard of soccer throughout the district.

Endless talk over the amount of money spent on improvements to Ernie Smith Reserve by SDSFA including the

building of the hall and all the clubhouse facilities, in comparison with Liverpool City's nil, have done nothing to convince Liverpool Council where the real future lies for soccer in our city.

We have gone back to the same old argument, which again seems to have a political (albeit an apparent reversal of roles for the major parties), rather than civic background, and again I consider the 'questionable' rights of a few to overshadow the rights of several thousand local kids and their rate paying parents.

With the promotion of Southern Districts United

to Division 1, in the state league, the local district now have the first ever chance to promote the name of Liverpool in a major statewide sporting competition.

The best previous achievements have come from the successful local hockey squads.

Southern Districts have received a massive vote of support from all the individual sporting groups involved in the LCC Sports Council.

It seems that everyone except a number of aldermen can see the benefits of a Liverpool based squad hosting major sporting events on a regular basis.

Local firms who are putting thousands of dollars annually into Liverpool sporting clubs will no doubt raise many questions with Council's rejection of an opportunity for Division 1 soccer to come to Liverpool, along with the commercial spin offs which accompany the prestigious State League competition.

The decision taken on Tuesday December 4 by Liverpool Council in rejection SDSFA fielding teams at Ernie Smith Reserve will cut heavily into the development of junior soccer in Liverpool.

It will be the cause of an incredible waste of an opportunity for our city to jump into the 21st century with an early mark over many envious councils in Sydney's west.

Elite juniors need special treatment

BY NSW DIRECTOR OF COACHING DAVID LEE

TAKING into account the difference between a child's chronological age and actual physiological age — which can actually vary by up to five years — it is reasonably safe to assume that coaching should begin between the ages of ten and twelve.

It is at this age that a child is well co-ordinated, has a desire to learn and has not yet entered the peer group pressure stage.

11 to 15 years of age are the big skill development years and it is important during this stage that learning is carefully planned, clearly presented and continually reinforced.

They should be introduced to the three R's: 1 Routine. 2 Realism. 3 Repetition.

Naturally routine is more easily established if they are under one qualified coach.

Routine is very difficult or impossible where a child is receiving information from two sources.

Instead of clear selection, confusion occurs and learning is more difficult.

Children at this age must work on: 1 Techniques. 2 Techni-

que to skill phase. 3 Identifying space. 4 Types of passes. 5 Conditioned games.

This naturally can only be co-ordinated by one coach.

To play in only one competition per week is ideal for an "elite" player.

It allows him more free time to work on his basic skills during his experimental years and prevents burnouts.

"Today's champion is tomorrow's dropout."

If children are to improve by competing with other elite players, by playing representative football, then it should be their only ongoing league competition.

The reasons for this include: 1 Elite competition. 2 Better coaching. 3 One instructor. 4 More free time for self expression and self development. 5 Less pressure. 6 Does not become selfish.

Joeys to New Zealand

THE next commitment for the Australian U17 Joes is the Oceania qualifying series in Napier, New Zealand, from January 12/20, 1991.

The programme in New Zealand is: v Papua New Guinea 4.30pm January 12, v Tahiti 4.30pm January 16, v Fiji 6.30pm January 18 and v New Zealand 6.30pm January 20.

The winner will represent the Oceania Football Confederation in the final tournament of the FIFA Under 17 World Championships in Ecuador from August 16 to September 1, 1991.

Cranbrook students win on Asian tour

SYDNEY's Cranbrook High School started their five-match tour of Asia in fine style.

game they defeated Malaysia's prestigious Victoria Institute 3-2 in Kuala Lumpur.

It was an exciting, fast and skilful game.

In their opening

TIPS PHOTOGRAPHY

HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH SOCCER



from the focal length of the lens is the most common mistake of amateur shooters. When using anything less than a 135mm lens, go strictly for goalmouth or sideline shots directly in front of you. With a 135mm lens you can shoot comfortably around the goalmouth, beyond the penalty spot and a short radius around you on the sideline.

With a 200mm lens you can shoot comfortably in the penalty box, and a similar distance from the sideline; you can also shoot from near the end of the touchline to the goalmouth for corner kicks. With a 300mm lens you can reach out very comfortably to midfield, covering corner kicks from the end line or down the sideline, and can consistently focus on individuals for tight action shots.

These tips on shooting your children — with a camera, that is — come from Roger Whipple of the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association, and are adapted from an article by Soccer America photographer Phil Stephens.

□ Become familiar and comfortable with a good camera, preferably a 35mm through-the-lens (SLR) camera as opposed to a range-finder. Virtually all major brands are dependable enough to serve your needs.

□ Though automatic exposure relieves the photographer of a great burden, it is still not advisable to shoot into the light. An autofocus is not necessarily a great idea for soccer action — often it does not focus quickly enough on fast-moving objects.

□ A good choice for beginners is a zoom telephoto lens, with variable focus lengths ranging from 80mm to 210mm all on the same lens, although some prefer lenses with a fixed focal length because they are easier to use and may deliver better picture quality. Long telephoto lens models with a fast aperture, such as f2.8, improve picture quality and allow more light through the lens, enabling photographers to shoot in darker conditions and under stadium lights.

□ Be patient, especially if you don't have a telephoto lens to "reach out" to the subject. Wait until the subject comes close, then "fill the frame" in the camera viewer with as much of your subject as possible.

□ Shooting action too far away

John Hargreaves listed for honour

JOHN Hargreaves has had a lifetime of association with football.

Right from his young days when he had to dress the football pitches in his hometown in England.

Football, says John, is a simple game made hard by players, coaches and officials.

Mr Hargreaves has been connected with soccer in Ku-ring-gai since the early seventies.

He became a member of the KD Soccer Referees Association in 1971 and since became a chief inspector, putting hundreds of referees through their paces.

He is a life member of both the Ku-ring-gai Referees Association and Ku-ring-gai District Soccer Association.

In addition, he has been the referees' delegate to the KDSA since 1983, he was assistant secretary for three years and has been secretary since November 1989.

Mr Hargreaves has been the Association's office manager for four years and has contributed greatly to the growth and administration of soccer in this important Northside region.

Ku-ring-gai Association would like to see him receive the highest accolade possible in recognition of his outstanding service and dedication to the code in Ku-ring-gai, and in fact to the game generally.

Darby discusses development role

BY ROBERT WHEATLEY



The recent appointment of National Development Officer, Steve Darby, at the Australian Soccer Federation has given soccer an insight into national projects and initiatives that will affect the players, officials and supporters of the code throughout NSW.

Discussions that have been held over several meetings have outlined not only the basic directions that Darby will be employing in his new role, but more importantly how and when they can be effectively implemented.

The success of the project, in my opinion, is not only the idea itself but also the way it is delivered to its intended target.

Darby agrees with me that the schools development program is the perfect vehicle for many of the exciting proposals he has in the pipeline.

Here we have direct access to children aged 8 to 17 years who will receive the major benefits of the national programs the ASF promotes.

The junior game, those involved in the



STEVE DARBY

six to ten year age bracket, will be the first to receive the full effects of a national project that has been a long time coming, and will be accepted as ASF policy.

The project's launch in early February is designed to precede the 1991 season which involves over 100 000 players throughout NSW.

Those involved in soccer in the 14-20 yrs.

age group, who are interested in other aspects of soccer as well as playing, will be candidates for involvement in the C.A.P.S. (The Challenge Achievement and Pathways in Sport) concept.

The emphasis here is on development and offers young people opportunities to develop valuable leadership qualities and proficiency through soccer.

Those involved learn new skills, and provide a community service by participating in refereeing, administration, coaching, team management and other areas.

Let's remember that many of the people who make up management committees and do the jobs for clubs and associations are volunteers, and the game would not survive without their devotion to soccer.

New staff are always required to replenish the existing band of volunteers and the CAPS scheme is likely to strengthen the base of helpers that supports the structure of soccer.

My experience has already taught me that without the competent and energetic volunteers a club or even an association will not flourish and

the game can suffer badly.

Footage for a film to launch the CAPS project was recently carried out at Parklea, and soccer will be the focus of a nationwide campaign to explain and promote the project.

Local students from Vardy's Road Primary School and Arthur Phillip High School were the participants of the afternoon's filming, and former Soccerroo Gary Cole now have the task of promoting the event in mid 1991.

Cole is the National Development Officer for Aussie Sports, and his insistence that soccer be the background sport is a major boost for promotion.

As the state development officer, I look forward eagerly to new projects and it now seems that the national body will finally be able to provide direction and assistance for long overdue development schemes.

ADVERTISING

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Junior clubs need qualified coaches

SINCE the mid-sixties organised coaching has been a part of the game in Australia and thousands of coaches have attended courses aimed at improving their knowledge and skill.

The attendees have traditionally been those who are motivated by their own desire to learn more about the game and to then improve the standard of play by applying their freshly acquired knowledge.

Over the years, there has been a steady flow of coaches to the courses organised and the interest has always been of a sufficient level to ensure the education of coaches will not fade away.

However, one must wonder just how effective the courses have been and how widespread the interest in them is at this time when we consider that only a very small number of clubs would have more than two or three coaches who have attended a coaching course and a great many clubs do not have any qualified coaches.

Surely, the time has arrived when clubs must take a greater interest in the quality of the coaching their players are receiving, especially since we are currently seeing other sports becoming particularly active in this area.

In a recent newspaper story, we have read that the sport of rowing recently experimented with the selection of children for the NSW junior titles by selecting kids on the basis of their physical attributes first and then providing them with the necessary skills.

The rowers achieved remarkable success using this method and it should sound a warning to all in our game that the other sports are looking very seriously at the future for their competitors and players.

There are many other examples of this style of player selection and coaching in other sports.

For example, both swimming and basketball are looking for kids with particular physical attributes and then helping them to acquire the necessary techniques to make team very competitive.

While the physical attributes are far less important in soccer, it is obvious that we must keep pace with rival

sports in the area of providing players with the opportunity to acquire the needed techniques or we will risk losing them to areas in which they can actually learn something about the activity in which they are participating.

Junior clubs must take an active interest in this worrying trend by encouraging their coaches to take part in coaching courses so the players have an increased opportunity of learning about our great game and how to play it properly.

Ideally, State Federations will legislate to insist that all coaches are qualified and the District Associations will enforce the legislation to junior club level but this, it seems, is a long way off.

For decades, soccer has been the leader in the field of junior sports but now it seems we are beginning to lose the battle because we have stagnated and steadfastly refused to make on-going prog-

ress. An example of soccer's leadership is mini-soccer which existed long before the acclaimed Aussie Sports programme.

Other sports have "pinched" the idea and added good quality coaching to their concept while soccer has been content to allow the game to continue without actually teaching the kids anything about playing.

We must act now if we are to stem the tide of youngsters who are moving to other sports by providing them with the things they have come to expect from sport — good quality coaching and the chance to learn and improve.

The more qualified coaches we have, the better our chances of helping the children.

BY BARRY DAVIS

[Barry Davis is a Sydney development coach and editor of "Coaching Overview"]

Expanding the NSL Cup

FROM PETER KUGELMAN IN CHARTERS TOWERS



PART 1

ALONG with many others, I would like to see an expansion of the Knockout Cup competition, but I guess the NSL and the ASF would both like a big say in that.

So perhaps a joint committee could manage it.

Ampol have sponsored such competitions before, and might be interested again.

One of the major NSL problems seems to be whether to have promotion and relegation.

Both camps have desirable aims and there is a way of satisfying both camps!

Arguments against promotion and relegation rest mainly on a desire for Australia-wide representation.

Why not expand the play-off series (even possibly calling it a '2nd division' of the NSL) in order to allow other areas in?

This 'second division' should give the nationwide lobby much satisfaction.

The 'first division' could be a fraction smaller (making it even a bit more elitist) and a high standard could be ensured by having true promotion and relegation just between the current NSL (the '1st division') and the play-off series (the '2nd division').

That should satisfy the anti-nationwide lobby (whose main argument is based on the 'lowering of standards').

Finally, I support the suggestion that the NSL be renamed the ASL — the 'Australian Soccer League'.

CANTERBURY MARRICKVILLE
OLYMPIC SOCCER CLUB



YOUTH LEAGUE
TRIALS

Monday December 17

Thursday December 20

AT THE

TEMPE RESERVE, TEMPE

AT 5.30PM
EACH NIGHT

ALL PLAYERS WISHING TO TRIAL ARE MOST
WELCOME



TOP — Bundesliga action with FC Köln's Janssen (left) clearly startled at the jumping prowess of Werder Bremen's Eilerts. **BOTTOM** — Inter Milan's Jürgen Klinsmann heads for goal in a congested goalmouth.



STUDENT STRIKE?

PLAYERS with a Romanian First Division side may go on strike to back up their demands for financial independence from the university which owns the club.

Club sources said Universitatea of Craiova players may refuse to take part in the side's next two league matches.

In a statement, the players said the Craiova University senate had not granted the club full financial autonomy as promised by Romanian sports authorities after last December's anti-communist revolution.

They demanded the reinstatement of club president Marcel Popescu who was sacked after supporting his players' demands.

NO TURKISH DELIGHTS

SEPP Piontek's appointment as Turkey's national coach was welcomed early in the year, but results have not gone his way.

He is clearly unhappy after one draw and three defeats, and says that the players are not fit enough to handle his 3-5-2 formation.

The results were 0-0 against the Republic of Ireland and 4-1 against Hungary in friendlies, 5-0 by the Republic and 1-0 against Poland in the European Championship.

UEFA SLAMS MIDDLEMEN

THE European Football Union (UEFA) has hit out at the use of middlemen in international transfers, saying that "the money must stay in football".

The game's governing body in Europe said last week that it "vigorously opposes" the use of intermediaries and will "take all measures to ensure that transfers only involve the clubs and federations".

UEFA has formed a working group to investigate such middlemen — particularly those using "unscrupulous" methods to tempt players from Eastern Europe to play in the West on unfavourable terms.



Arsenal's Micky Thomas challenges Luton's goalkeeper in a recent English league match.

French plan to combat scandals

THE president of the French Football League, Jean Sadoul has drawn up a five-point plan to save the code which is currently reeling under the weight of financial scandals.

Sadoul, 79, had been under pressure to stand down as he was closely linked with Jean-Claude Darmon, who is heavily implicated in the scandal over illicit payments to players at First Division club Toulon.

But Sadoul insisted: "A captain does not abandon ship while the storm is raging."

Instead, he outlined the plan he intends to put before the League's winter general meeting.

- Finances will be closely monitored and any club deemed to be in difficulties will be barred from transfer dealings

- The reduction of professional staffs at all First and Second Division clubs. At present the upper limit is 21 players under contract, which will be progressively reduced at 14.

- The elimination of the release clause in contracts, which is viewed as contributing to the rise in salaries.

- Clubs will be forced to reduce what are

seen as excessive salaries paid to players.

- Clubs will have to lodge the necessary transfer papers with the League by the end of April each year for the following season.

Sadoul said: "In the long run, these scandals will have done soccer a service because we will have the machinery to impose sanctions."

Speaking of the "scandalous and exorbitant" rises in players' salaries, he said: "I didn't know how to deal with the situation before."

"I was wrong but now we must ensure the game's stability. I intend to stay and do my duty by serving football."



Roma's ace German striker Rudi Voller wins this aerial duel from a visibly shaken Luigi De Agostini of Juventus.



Two of Europe's finest ball players — Chris Waddle (left), of England, and Belgium's Enzo Scifo — clash at Italia '90. Scifo scored well in the 1990 Player of the Year awards — see page 24.

UEFA CUP

ALL four Italian clubs qualified for the quarter-finals of the UEFA Cup last week, with Bologna coming back from the dead to eliminate Admira Wacker of Austria.

The Austrians had won the first leg 3-0; the Italians won last Wednesday by the same score before taking out the penalty shoot-out to advance.

The only surprise was the elimination of Monaco, beaten by home 2-1 by Torpedo Moscow.

Anderlecht scored a vital away goal at Borussia Dortmund to qualify.

The three German teams were all eliminated, but surprise packet Brondby, from Denmark, made it to the next round.

The results:

Bayer Leverkusen 0 Brondby 0 — Brondby qualifies with 3-0 aggregate; Monaco 1 Torpedo Moscow 2 — Torpedo 4-2; Partizan Belgrade 1 Inter Milan 1 — Inter 4-1; Bologna 3 Admira Wacker 0 (Bologna 6-5 pen) — Bologna 3-3 (pen); Borussia Dortmund 2 Anderlecht 1 — Anderlecht 2-2 away goals; Atalanta 1 FC Köln 0 — Atalanta 2-1; Bordeaux 0 AS Roma 2 — Roma 7-0; Sporting Lisbon 2 Vitesse Arnhem 1, Sporting 4-2.
The draws for the three European Cups will be made tomorrow (Tuesday).

TOP
JUNIOR
PICTURE,
FEATURES
Inside

Austria on the slide

AUSTRIANS are likely to look back on this season as the most humiliating in their country's history.

The demise of the national team against the rank outsiders, the Faroe Islands, was followed by the disastrous second round of the European competitions.

Champions FC Tirol were trounced 9-1 by Real Madrid, Cup holders FK Austria slumped to a 4-0 defeat by Juventus, and Rapid Vienna fell to Inter Milan.

Top English referee George Courtney sent off two Austrians and caused a storm of protests over his "bizarre" match control, as the quality media had put it. Others made mostly unprintable comments.

Worse was to follow for FK Austria in the 184th Viennese derby. World Cup referee



Helmut Kohl sent off three FK players, so that Rapid's 3-0 win was hardly surprising.

Norwegian international striker Jan-Aage Fjortoft scored twice, and Helmut Pfeifferberger got the third.

FK's sent-off contingent, Ernst Aigner, Peter Stoger and Ralph Hasenhuttl, are all internationals.

They can expect severe club and FA punishment.



JOAQUIM NILSSON: he will be one of Sweden's best hopes for a good showing in the 1992 European Championship, to be held in Sweden, of course.

LEGACY still needs your help

Please send donations to your nearest Legacy office.

Around the globe

Compiled by LOU GAUTIER



- Turkish club Zeytinburnu have signed Gheorghe Constantin, who recently resigned as Romanian national team coach after only a three-month stint.
- Crack Turkish side Fenerbahce have bought Lech Poznan's Polish international libero Jan Jakolczewicz for \$500,000.
- In a surprise move, USSR national team goalkeeper Victor Chanov has left Dynamo Kiev to play in Israel. He has signed a two-year contract with Israeli competition leaders Maccabi Haifa, who have loaned him for the rest of the season to relegation-threatened Hapoel Holon.
- World Cup goalkeeper Jan Stejskal has lost his place in the Czechoslovakian team following his shaky start at Queens Park Rangers. His shirt has been handed to another London-based goalkeeper, West Ham's Ludek Miklosko.
- Dusan Uhrin will take over as coach of Czechoslovakian champions Sparta Prague on January 1, replacing Vaclav Jezek.
- Radek Drulak, current top scorer in the Czechoslovak First Division, will transfer from Sigma Olomouc to German Division Two Oldenburg after the winter break.
- The once powerful Colombian club, Millonarios Beogota, are faring poorly in the national competition they once dominated. Wags claim the reason for the club's demise is the loss of Millonarios' former backers, said to be drug traffickers.
- The Italian First Division is booming. At this stage of the competition, crowds are almost 650,000 up on last season. The average crowd per game is now 34,000.
- Argentine goalkeeper Nery Pumpido is back training with his Spanish club Betis. Injured in the early stages of Italia '90, Pumpido says he'll be fit to play again the first week of January.
- Racing Club, of Argentina, have sacked coach Nelson Chabay. The club is negotiating with Olimpia of Paraguay's Uruguayan mentor Luis Cubilla.
- Hungarian coach Pal Csernai is the new coach of ailing Bundesliga woodenspooner Hertha Berlin. The 57-year-old former Bayern Munich supremo replaces Werner Fuchs.
- Diego Maradona's brother, Lalo, has joined Venezuelan club Deportivo Italia, of Caracas. Another Maradona sibling, Hugo, is now in Austria.
- Diego Latorre, Boca Juniors' attacking midfielder, has been chosen as Argentina's Player of the Year by the country's soccer writers. Daniel Passarella (River Plate) won the best coach award and River Plate's Leonardo Astrada took out the Rookie of the Year prize.
- Bundesliga side Bayer Leverkusen has signed young Romanian international striker Daniel Timofte from Dinamo Bucharest.
- Katowice are the leaders at the half-way mark of the Polish First Division championship, thus taking out the symbolical "autumn championship".
- Zhalgiris Vilnius, of Lithuania, and Georgia's Dynamo Tbilisi, have reapplied to rejoin the Soviet competition after pulling out this season on nationalistic grounds, but the USSR Federation says they have to start out in Division Three if readmitted.
- Former German international Timo Konietzka is the new coach of Bayer Uerdingen. He replaces Horst Wohlers, who was sacked for mediocre results which have placed the club in the Bundesliga relegation zone. Konietzka, 52, coached Uerdingen in 1983/84, and has also had spells in Switzerland with FC Zurich and Grasshoppers.
- Czechoslovakian domestic football is in a bad way. Most weekends total attendance at the eight First Division matches barely reaches 30,000 spectators! Prices are increasing and the clubs urgently require sponsors as state subsidies slip away.
- The African Confederation has banned the Nakivubo Stadium in Kampala, Uganda, until further notice for security reasons.
- FIFA now has 165 members since the amalgamation of the two Germanys.
- The Hong Kong FA has applied to host the second FIFA World Five-a-Side championships. The first series was held in Holland.
- The 1992 Olympic football tournament will kick off one day before the official opening ceremony of the Games. Four matches will be played on July 23. The final will take place on August 8 as planned.
- Asia's three representatives at the under 17 World Cup finals in Ecuador next year are Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and China.



Montpellier's Laurent Blanc and Carlos Valderamma on the prowl when they demolished Steaua Bucharest in the European Cup-Winners' Cup. Montpellier will know their quarter-final opponents on Tuesday when UEFA announces the draws for the three European Cups.

Romanians star in Holland

EVERYONE agrees: the two best players in this year's Dutch League so far have been Gica Popescu and Ioan Sabau, two Romanian internationals.

After the World Cup, where Romania impressed before falling to Ireland, PSV signed Popescu and Feyenoord captured Sabau.

Popescu, a libero, is 23 and Sabau, who plays in midfield, is a year younger, yet they have almost 30 caps each and certainly play like veterans.

Better yet, Sabau cost a mere \$1.3 million and even the \$3.6 million PSV paid for Popescu is a snip at current prices.

In short, they are just what ailing Dutch football needed.

Real Madrid, Bologna, Rangers, FC Koln and Lecce all made bids for Popescu this summer. Lecce thought they had signed him, and PSV general manager Kees Ploegsma was put to much trouble to ensure the Romanian came to Holland after all.

It is easy to see why Popescu attracted so many offers: he is inventive and skilful, and he alone has kept Bobby Robson's floundering PSV on Ajax's trail.

When Montpellier drew PSV in the Cup-Winners' Cup this season, the French turned to the former Dutch manager George Knobel for advice.

"Control Popescu," Knobel told Montpellier's Henryk Kaspercak, "then PSV will be trapped."

So it proved, and Montpellier made headlines all over the world by knocking out PSV.

When Popescu is unable to make 50-metre runs into midfield before finding a hole for his strikers, nobody at PSV can take over his role.

The wonder is that such a player could have chosen the miserable Dutch league over Italy or Spain.

Sabau, if anything, is even more important to Feyenoord than Popescu to PSV.

Thijs Libregts, another former Dutch manager, commented: "Sabau is really very



IOAN SABAU

good. He can read the game, he makes runs, he acts quickly and his technique is very good.

"But at the moment at Feyenoord he's still a white raven among too many grey players. He acts and thinks too fast for some of his teammates."

Sabau is a world-class player in a mediocre Dutch team.

His contract at Feyenoord runs for four years.

At the moment, away from his unhappy country, he is content in Rotterdam — but he belongs in Milan, or alongside Hagi in Madrid.

Naturally, when Sabau has played badly, Feyenoord have lost.

And that is what happened for a few weeks last month when the

the bench and only went on late in the second half.

He feels he is being punished for his move to the west. Martin Snoeck, a director at Feyenoord, complains: "They're portraying him as a money-wolf because he deserted them."

Romania now have tightened the rules preventing players from emigrating. But can this work? In years to come, surely every league in Europe will have its golden Romanians.

— courtesy WORLD SOCCER

Italy to delve into 'potato patch' scandal

THE Italian government is to hold an inquiry into the poor state of four soccer pitches used in this year's World Cup finals.

The probe will concentrate on the "potato patch" San Siro Stadium in Milan, the base of both AC Milan and Inter.

It will also examine the poor surface at Roma's Olympic Stadium, which hosted the final of the competition, and at the stadiums of First Division clubs Genoa and Torino.



The San Siro Stadium

which owns San Siro, says the pitch was so bad the city should build another stadium.

He said the roof prevented enough light entering for the grass to grow properly and blamed Luca di Montezemolo, head of the local World Cup organising committee, for insisting it be erected for the finals.

Di Montezemolo is expected to respond to the charge at a news conference on December 19.



ber 19 when he will also reveal exactly how much money the month-long soccer spectacular made or



lost.

FIFA has said it did not insist the roof be built, only that the VIP area be covered.

Other experts have variously blamed the sand base on which the San Siro turf was laid or the decision to cut up and sell pieces of the pitch as souvenirs after the finals.

That idea, they say, meant the replacement pitch did not have enough time to bed itself down before the start of the domestic season in September.

Work began last week to replace a wide strip of turf on the Milan pitch.



Gianluca Vialli (right) is back in top form for Sampdoria, a big chance retain their European Cup-Winners' title and to win the Italian League as well.



LOTHAR MATTHAUS: recipient of 1990 World Player of the Year awards all over the globe.

Napoli sues Maradona!



DIEGO Maradona, the wayward Argentine superstar, is being sued by his Italian club Napoli for breach of contract.

The club are claiming the repayment of an estimated 1.8 million dollars, 30 per cent of the advertising rights paid to the player since June 1988, and the freezing of all payments due to Maradona until the end of his contract in 1993.

The move is seen as club chairman Corrado Ferlaino's retaliation for Maradona's most recent tantrums when he refused to travel to Florence on the team bus for a Cup match against Fiorentina, having already decided not to travel to Moscow for a European Cup tie, although he later reconsidered.

Maradona learned of the action on his return from Madrid, where he appeared on Spanish television to say he was sick of Italy and was ready to hang up his boots.

The news took him completely by surprise and he said: "I only learned of Ferlaino's decision on my return and I feel I've been

stabbed in the back.

"Last year I was surprised by the way the club behaved when I returned from holiday and now I can see that nothing has changed."

"I have nothing to say about this affair until I've spoken to my lawyer," he added.

Meanwhile, an Italian judge has ruled that Maradona should have a blood test to help determine whether he's the father of a four-year-old boy.

A judicial spokesman says the judge has appointed two professors from Naples University to supervise tests on the Argentine captain of the Napoli team and the child.

Maradona has denied that he's the father of Diego Armando Maradona Junior.

The 26-year-old Christiana Sinagra says her son is the result of a five-month relationship she had with the father-of-two.

The next hearing is set for February.

FRENCH POLL



MOST French people would stop short of saying that the men who run football in their country are honest, according to an opinion poll.

The poll, appearing in the sports daily "L'Equipe," covered 1,005 responses to a question on the best way to describe the football chiefs, following a recent spate of fraud enquiries in the French game.

The telephone survey found that 56 per cent refused to say the top men were honest, 21 per cent thought they were and 23 per cent had no opinion.

The scandals have implicated top officials of First Division clubs Toulon and Bordeaux in clandestine transfer payments, and the promotions chief of the French Football Federation, Jean-Claude Darmon, in setting up slush funds.

Asked about the root cause of the trouble, 60 per cent of those interviewed said there was "too much money" in the French game, 50 per cent thought the "financial demands of players" were to blame and 40 per cent reckoned it was down to the "conflicts between the chairmen of certain top clubs".

The one bright spot was that 56 per cent thought there was more chance of revealing the truth about financing football than France's political parties.

German star is ASW's Player of the Year

BY LOU GAUTIER

It's this time of the year again — when soccer lovers around the world start reviewing the year and picking their best list of top players, teams, etc.

Publications all over the world are in the process of selecting their top 10 in all categories.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY not to be outdone, and for what it's worth, has also chosen its top 10 players world-wide for this very busy 1990 which is about to pass into history.

Here are our choices: **LOTHAR MATTHAUS** gets our nod as the world's Number 1 for both his performances for Germany at the World Cup and Inter Milan.

Although he started the World Cup better than he finished it, his was still a towering achievement as the motivator of the world champions' engine room.

And for Inter he continues to dominate the midfield and is one of the reasons why they are firm favourites to win this season's UEFA Cup.



TOTO SCHILLACI

TOTO SCHILLACI was the revelation of the

WORLD SOCCER POLL

LOTHAR Matthaus, who captained West Germany to victory in this year's World Cup, has been named World Player of the Year in an annual British magazine poll.

'World Soccer' magazine says Matthaus, who plays for Inter Milan, had collected 21.9 per cent of readers' votes to become the first German to win the award.

Italian striker Salvatore Schillaci of Juventus was second and Argentine captain Diego Maradona of Naples third.

Franz Beckenbauer, who masterminded the West German World Cup triumph in Italy, was named world coach of the year.

West Germany was team of the year, ahead of European Cup champion AC Milan and Cameroun, the surprise team of the World Cup.

ASW'S TOP 10 WORLD RANKINGS

- 1) **LOTHAR MATTHAUS** (Germany)
- 2) **TOTO SCHILLACI** (Italy)
- 3) **PAUL GASCOIGNE** (England)
- 4) **ENZO SCIFO** (Belgium)
- 5) **ANDREAS BREHME** (Germany)
- 6) **JURGEN KLINSMANN** (Germany)
- 7) **ROGER MILLA** (Cameroun)
- 8) **DIEGO MARADONA** (Argentina)
- 9) **ROBERTO BAGGIO** (Italy)
- 10) **JEAN-PIERRE PAPIN** (France)

DARKO PANCEV (Yugoslavia)

World Cup and if worth was judged on Italia '90 output alone, he would be my Number 1.

It took Schillaci a while, however, to get back into scoring mode for Juventus and he was not as dominant as Matthaus at club level before the start of the World Cup though he did win the European Cup-Winners' Cup with his club last season.

PAUL GASCOIGNE has become flavour of the post-World Cup in England. He came of age at Italia '90 where he was largely responsible for England's much better than anticipated display.

Since Italy, he has been the star performer for Tottenham, having shed his mantle of "Clown Prince" for that of a dynamic leader and

maker of Sicilian descent would have taken centre stage.

His four appearances in Italy were enough, however, to mark him as one of Italia '90's hottest talents, and in France his brilliant performances week in, week out, have transformed his club, Auxerre, into one of France's best.



ANDREAS BREHME

ANDREAS BREHME is very much the quiet man of Germany and Inter Milan, but there is no denying his contribution to both. An underrated player, Brehme is very much the quintessence of the modern full-back, with a lethal shot to boot and an uncanny ability to score freekicks.

JURGEN KLINSMANN, Brehme's flamboyant team-mate in the German and Inter sides, is one of the most deadly strikers in today's football. When on his game, like against Holland at Italia '90, he is a match-winner like none other in the world, but



JURGEN KLINSMANN

he does his image no good with over the top "dives" whenever he is fouled.

ROGER MILLA comes in at Number 7 for his impact on the World Cup. In semi-retirement before and after Italia '90, the 38-year-old Cameroun striker caught the fancy of the



ROGER MILLA

world with his four goals in Italy. Super-sub extraordinaire, Milla was indeed one of his big personalities of 1990.

DIEGO MARADONA cannot be left out of any Top 10 list. After all, his Argentina did reach the World Cup final, and before that he steered Napoli to another win in the most competitive league in the world. His on and off the field antics filled the sports pages all over the world for most of the year. As he was always in the news, for better or worse, he remains one of the top names in football.



ROBERTO BAGGIO

ROBERTO BAGGIO justified his tag of most expensive transfer in history with probably the best goal of the World Cup and had he been used more often by coach Azeglio Vicini he might well have led Italy to a World Cup triumph. Since Italia '90, he has been Juventus' best player as the club strives for Italian league and European Cup-Winners' Cup honors.

I have bracketed **JEAN-PIERRE PAPIN** and **DARKO PANCEV** as equal 10th in my global rankings.

Papin is honoured for his remarkable knack for goals and also as a symbol of the re-emergence of French football, while Pancev is a reminder of the vitality of Yugoslav soccer at both national and club level despite internal ethnic tensions.